

Leader says rise needed in 2017 to meet service costs

10pc COUNCIL TAX HIKE ON CARDS

Report by Jack Averty

WALSALL residents have been warned that council tax may have to rise by as much as 10 per cent next year.

A cabinet meeting recommended a 3.99 per cent increase for the 2016/17 financial year, which will go before the full council.

However, after reiterating his plans to hold a referendum on council tax for the 2017/18 financial year, council leader Mike Bird said the authority could be seeking a rise of up to 10 per cent. A referendum has to be held if a council wants to raise council tax by more than two per cent.

Councillor Bird said he was looking for this rise as he could see no other way for the council to raise the money they need to complete their statutory duties in running certain services.

Addressing the cabinet meeting he said: "Whichever person is leading this council has the same alternatives.

"There is no easy option, we cannot go to the bank and cash a cheque. It will have to go to a referendum, I can't see how we are going to raise the funds without a higher rate of council tax."

Fiery

When asked afterwards what the rise could be, he added: "We're looking at between six and 10 per cent."

During the meeting, the cabinet also voted to recommend that full council raise council tax for 2016/17 by 3.99 per cent.

Council tax was just one of the many issues touched upon during a fiery cabinet meeting.

The Walsall Against Cuts group protested outside the council building both before and during the meeting with several angry hecklers inside the meeting itself. But Councillor Bird fought back at the protesters saying: "Sign as many pieces of paper as you like, we are realists here."

Despite the confrontations, the meeting was very much the calm before the storm as no cuts were officially approved, just recommended to be approved for when they go in front of full council later this month.

These include £2 million from the adult social care budget and £520,000 from domestic waste collection with proposed alternative weekly collections.

Despite the long list of cuts, Councillor Bird insisted that the council had been listening to the public which is why they were looking at alternatives for the proposed closure of seven libraries in the borough such as having unmanned libraries with swipe cards and CCTV.

FRUITFUL BUSINESS FOR NIGEL – MAN AND BOY



Nigel Povey celebrates 40 years running his own shop, with staff, from left, Jayne Cope, Nina Morroll, Diane Lowe, Jessica Browne and Kasia Pawlik

HE started selling fruit and vegetables aged just 11 – and 50 years later he is still providing fresh produce to his customers.

Selling in Walsall's Butlers Precinct, Nigel Povey is now one of the most-recognised faces in the borough. His days start with a trip to Birmingham Wholesale Market at about 3am – but during the soft fruit season he can be up even earlier, sometimes arriving at 1am.

Trading runs in the family and it was Nigel's grandfather who first started selling fruit and veg when they emigrated from Ireland. The 60-year-old first worked for his

uncle before eventually going it alone, running three separate businesses and a market stall during his peak. But with many independent retailers feeling the pressure from supermarkets, Nigel is now down to one greengrocers in Butlers Precinct, near Walsall bus station.

But he also used to sell in The Victorian Arcade. He says the only real customers he gets today are those who have been with him from the start but admitted they were all 'one big happy family' who were helping him celebrate 40 years working as his own boss.

He said: "All our relations were in the business starting with my grandfather, starting up the first market in Wednesbury."

"I began working with my uncle in 1966 when I was 11 years old and by February 17, 1976, I had gone on my own." Once his first business was established, Nigel opened a second in The Victorian Arcade and then a third in Butlers Precinct.

Nigel also ran a market stall, one day a week, for two years during the 1980s but eventually decided to reduce his trade to one outlet.

BLAZE

Arson cited as cause of Legge factory fire

A FIRE that ripped through a former lock factory in Willenhall is being treated as suspected arson, it has been confirmed.

Around 60 firefighters tackled the huge blaze at the derelict Legge Locks factory in Stafford Street, which broke out on Saturday morning.

West Midlands Fire Service spokesman Neil Spencer said: "There were no gas or electrics at the site so they have been ruled out and it is being treated as suspected arson."

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BUSINESS

Business booming as firms taken over

A MAJOR Walsall accountants firm has completed the takeover of two Shropshire companies as it extends its presence in the county.

Baldwins Accountants bought one of Shropshire's biggest accountants, Turner Peachey, in late 2014, in a move that extended its reach into the county for the first time.

Now it has taken over Andrews, Orme & Hinton, on Shrewsbury's Oxon Business Park, and Geraint Humphrey & Co in Beatrice Street, Oswestry.

ENTERTAINMENT

Reel excitement as cinema takes shape

WALSALL'S first cinema in more than 20 years is nearing the end of construction.

The multi-million pound Light Cinema is due to open on March 18 with tens of thousands of film fans expected to visit the venue throughout the year.

It will be the centrepiece of the £12 million Waterfront development which will also see a number of restaurants including the TGI Fridays chain.

Councillor Adrian Andrew, business and employment chief for the council, has been at the heart of bringing the cinema and the Waterfront development to the borough.

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INSIDE

MAKING A POINT FOR ARTS 25th



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Ssh! Nursery told to turn down music



The Music Box Nursery

A NURSERY has been told to turn down the volume when playing songs so that its toddlers can more easily engage in conversation.

One of the key findings of its latest Ofsted inspection was that 'unnecessary background noise' prevented toddlers and older children from communicating clearly with adults and other children.

Bosses at Music Box Nursery in Wellington Road, Bilston, have been told it 'requires improvement' following an inspection. Inspector Mary Henderson concluded staff do not provide enough

opportunities for children to develop their listening, understanding and speaking skills. Managers also came under fire for failing to provide effective monitoring of staff to address weaknesses. Ms Henderson, who inspected the privately-run nursery in November, said the quality of teaching varied.

"Staff caring for babies and younger children provide a broad range of opportunities to experience a language rich environment," she said. "However, staff caring for the toddlers and pre-school children are sometimes less engaged.

Furthermore, nursery rhymes sometimes play so loudly in the toddler room that there are fewer opportunities for these children to consistently engage in conversations."

Music Box Nursery was also told it required improvement when inspectors visited in May. The latest report said progress had been made and indicated several 'strengths'. These included children developing emotional attachments with the staff, effective feedback for parents and guardians and most children make reasonable learning progress.

No date set for building of residential home, claim

THERE is still no starting date for the construction of a new residential home in Walsall, a councillor has claimed.

The former Meadow House in Short Heath, Willenhall had been derelict for a number of years and a target for vandalism and squatters before plans were submitted to demolish it last April.

Under the proposals a new facility catering for 72 residents would be built alongside six new homes, creating 50 jobs.

However, work is yet to start and there is no fixed date set as to when it will, local councillor Ian Shires has claimed.

He said: "There is still no fixed date for a start on construction of a new residential home plus six semi detached houses on the former Meadow House residential home site in Stroud Avenue, Short Heath for which planning permission was granted last year.

"There was much controversy when, following the sale of the site by Walsall Council back in 2011, a planning application was submitted for a secure mental health unit in 2012.

"This application was eventually withdrawn, the site was sold on to new owners leading to the current permission for a new three-storey residential home and some much needed semi-detached family homes.

"The plans are a far cry from the original application for a secure unit.

"The new residential home will resemble the kind of use of the old Meadow House which is good news for local residents."

Hundreds join in protest over terror suspect

HUNDREDS of people descended on the Portuguese Embassy in London in support of Black Country terror suspect Paramjeet Singh Saini – as his family met the country's ambassador.

Father-of-four Mr Saini is currently behind bars in Portugal waiting to see if he will face an extradition hearing.

Indian authorities have accused him of being involved in the killing of a prominent Sikh politician and a bombing campaign in the country and want him to return there to face charges.

However, Mr Saini's arrest and detention while on a family holiday in the Algarve has drawn a furious response from UK politicians, as he has been granted asylum seeker status in this country. Members of his family met with the Portuguese ambassador on Friday who promised them any hearing would be transparent.

Upkar Singh, of the Kesri Lehar activist group, said: "We successfully got Paramjeet Singh's family to meet with the Portuguese Ambassador. Portuguese authorities will now demand every document related to the previous case lodged against Paramjeet Singh in Britain by India. These will be compared to the current case being brought against him."

Fire leaves Legge locks site a burnt-out shell

FOR around 100 years it was a hive of manufacturing, a production centre for thousands of locks while employing generations of workers.

But now, the former Legge Locks factory in Willenhall stands a wreckage following a devastating fire which swept through the Stafford Street site on Saturday morning.

The fire was so fierce flames could be seen coming from the windows while smoke engulfed the surrounding neighbours. Residents were told to stay indoors. A total of 12 fire crews were called to the scene, taking hours to bring the blaze under control. Still, on Sunday, crews were returning every two hours to check the warm wreckage. While investigators were still at the site trying to determine what had happened.

The factory, taken over by Legge Locks in 1888, had been unused for 15 years and the contents were unknown. The fire, which closed Stafford Street for most of the day, is believed to have started at around 7.40am on Saturday morning. Commander Steve Lees said: "It was quite spectacular early on, there was a lot of smoke which meant visibility was reduced for a large area of Willenhall."

Concerns

It has taken longer than expected for WMFS to identify as a potential cause because the fire investigations officer could not enter the building until late Saturday afternoon due to safety concerns. Mr Lees explained: "Due to the derelict nature of the building and the dangerous conditions within, we took a cautious approach.

"We had our fire investigation officer on scene but of course he wasn't able to enter the building until it was safe to do so."

Crews stayed late into Saturday over fears part of the roof, which was still in tact, may have been on fire. They had to expose and strip away the remainder of the roof, according to Mr Lees.

Despite smoke filling the skies above Willenhall and the fire blazing for several hours, there were no casualties. Two crews responded to the fire within four minutes, but soon realised the extent of the blaze and more crews were called in. Caroline Jarratt, who lives directly opposite the factory, saw the blaze as she opened her back door after hearing a bang. She said: "I was on the phone to my mum when I heard a bang which I thought was a gunshot at first.

"I opened the back door and could see the fire as well as firefighters trying to break down the door to the factory. They need to get ride of that building now, it's disgraceful its been derelict for so long."



Inside the Stafford Street factory after the blaze which was attended by 12 crews at its height



Fire damage to the former Legge Lock factory



A firefighter seen tackling the blaze at the premises

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Pc sacked for assault after pub trouble

A POLICE officer from Walsall has been sacked by West Midlands Police for assaulting a member of the public.

Pc David Mitchison was convicted of assaulting Stephen Hubbard after a fight at a pub in Walsall town centre in 2014. At a special case hearing last Friday, he was dismissed without notice by the head of West Midlands Police, Ch Con David Thompson.

Mr Thompson, who chaired the hearing, said keeping Mr Mitchison in his job would have undermined the public's trust in the police force.

Mr Mitchison, aged 48, who lives in Pelsall and worked for Walsall's Community Action Team, was on duty when he was called to deal with a fight involving two people outside the Tap and Tanner pub on Darwall Street.

Mr Hubbard needed stitches to his head after allegedly being pushed by Mr Mitchison during the scuffle on March 9, 2014.

Mr Mitchison was found guilty of assault by Birmingham Magistrates Court in March last year and fined £400, ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £40, costs of £300 and compensation of £200. He lost an appeal against his conviction in October.

The hearing at Balsall Heath Police Station in Birmingham heard how Mr Mitchison, who is married with children, joined the force in June 1998.

The head of Walsall Police Station, Superintendent Joanne Clews, referred to several Chief Constable Commendations he had received. However, in a statement read out by Mr Mitchison's federal representative John Tooms, she added: "I would not be happy if Pc Mitchison returns to work under my command."

Mr Tooms, who was speaking on behalf of Mr Mitchison who opted not to attend the hearing, said: "For the record Pc Mitchison accepts his conviction for assault and he also accepts that having the conviction amounts to gross misconduct."

But he added that Mr Mitchison disputes 'the facts with which his conviction was based'.

£1,700 payout for fly-tipper

A FLY-TIPPER from Wednesbury, caught dumping a mattress and household waste in Walsall for £20 has been ordered to pay nearly £1,700 after being taken to court.

Having pocketed £20 to dispose of a blue and white double mattress and two builders bags filled with assorted household waste, Daniel Avery, of Thorn Close, was caught on CCTV fly-tipping the waste from the back of his mother's Citroen Berlingo van on Wallows Lane, Walsall.

Avery pleaded guilty to fly-tipping at Walsall Magistrates Court on February 1.

He was fined £600 and ordered to pay £1,031.59 costs, with a victim surcharge of £60.

Councillor Adrian Andrew, Walsall Council deputy leader said: "This blatant kind of criminal activity shows a total disregard for the law abiding residents of Walsall."

Students prove they have bags of talent



Brady Bags' Royston Bird and Chris Thompson, back, with Walsall College students and their designs

BAGS designed and manufactured by Walsall College students could soon find their way on to the international market. Five fashion students have seen their ideas snapped up by the Brady Bags Production Line.

They were given the opportunity to present designs to the fashion brand, which has been producing handmade sporting bags, canvas, brass components and English bridle leather in Walsall since 1887.

Their brief was to come up with bag designs aimed at a younger trend conscious market, which were also

in keeping with the Brady style. Students had a month to work on their designs before pitching them to the firm. Royston Bird, who is responsible for design and development at Brady Bags, selected eight winning designs.

He said: "All the bags fit the brief extremely well and were of a high standard. The students had paid great attention to detail and really thought about the functionality of the product. "We were also very impressed with how professionally they pitched and sold their ideas."

Industry and customer feedback

will be sought on prototypes of the eight designs, which will be created at the firm's production facility

Students will be involved throughout the manufacturing process, choosing fabrics and materials, and seeing their designs as they come off the production line. Two students will also be given the opportunity to complete work experience placements with Brady Bags.

Lucy Jones, 17, a BTEC Level 3 student, said: "I'm very excited three of my designs were picked and can't wait to see how they look in reality."

Hundreds of homes in pipeline for land

MORE than 200 homes will be built on a disused former industrial site in Darlaston, under plans lodged.

Land at Heathfield Lane West and Moxey Road will be transformed into an estate for 225 houses under the proposal submitted by Catalyst Capital.

The site was used for brick and pottery work as far back as the early 20th century and currently is the home of a disused factory with office units among unused ground.

The area has been described as a 'key regeneration site' by the council. Councillor Doug James says the proposals would be great news for the town if granted.

The Darlaston South councillor also said he believed there would be concerns from the community regarding access and road usage if the plans do go ahead, but added he believed the positives outweigh the negatives.

He said: "The area has been neglected and abandoned in terms of development for many years, so I am delighted that it has finally attracted a developer. Hopefully we will see work start sooner rather than later if planning permission is granted."

Opportunity

"I do believe that there may be concerns raised within the community regarding narrow streets in the surrounding area, as well as increase of vehicles using the roads, however I believe the planning committee and the local police representatives can resolve those issues if they are brought up."

"There will always be issues when a development of this nature is proposed but I believe planning bosses need to look at the benefit of bringing more than 200 houses to Darlaston in terms of our community."

"I really hope that this can go ahead and that young families can take advantage of the opportunity to get on the property ladder."

A previous planning application for the site, to build 304 houses and apartments was granted in 2008, did not get off the ground. Applicants Catalyst Capital say the firm has been advised that any plan submitted by them should be for just houses and not apartments.

A document submitted with the application reads: "The previous development proposals include a relatively high proportion of apartments and we have been advised that the proposals are neither viable nor meet current market requirements."

Silver celebration sewn up for arts



Preya Chauhan from the creative development team launches the history and local identity sessions

ELEVEN tapestries will be created in Walsall recognising the town's history.

The project, called 'Silver Thread', has been backed by Arts Council England who have stumped up £73,400 worth of lottery funding. It is to mark 25 years of work by the borough council's community arts team.

The first phase will see a series of meetings take place over the next couple of months for people

to make suggestions for what should be incorporated into the design of each tapestry.

Deb Slade, manager of the council's creative development team, said: "We are hoping for as many people to be involved as possible and want to get everyone to sew at least one stitch."

It is hoped that when it is decided what designs will adorn the tapestries, sewing will commence in April and carry on right

through until the autumn. The finished pieces will then be put on display in January next year via a tour throughout Walsall.

The first consultation meetings are taking place on Saturday at St Mathews Centre between 11am to 1pm and the Arboretum visitor centre between 1.30pm and 3.30pm.

Future dates and venues can be found by visiting www.creativewalsall.com

NEWS IN BRIEF

Author lined up for library visit

A POPULAR writer will visit Willenhall Library next month.

Gaynor Arnold, a former social worker whose debut novel *Girl in a Blue Dress* was listed for the Man Booker Prize in 2008, will give a talk at the library on March 3 as part of a series of 'Meet The Author' events.

Dina Teppin, area librarian, said: "The meet the author sessions provide an ideal opportunity for readers to get an inside track on some of their favourite books. They shine a light on the thought processes that take place when constructing novels."

Shop proposed in place of pub

A PUB in Aldridge faces demolition as plans have been submitted to turn it into a shop, creating 30 new jobs.

The Lime Kilns on Northgate, formerly known as the Struggling Monkey, is currently closed as bosses want to see if their application to Walsall council will be approved.

They want to demolish the front and one of the side walls to create a 'more traditional' layout for the potential shop. The scheme would include 46 parking spaces, with two allocated for people with disabilities and four cycle stands.

Fencing to boost security at station

HIGH fencing will be installed as plans to tighten security at Wednesbury Police Station were approved.

Officers reviewed security at the base in Holyhead Road leading to new plans to boost safety for staff.

Sandwell Council's planning department has agreed to the move after an application was tabled by West Midlands Police. New fencing measuring more than 9ft (2.8m) high and a new car parking barrier will be installed. The force said the previous measures left the rear car park 'open and vulnerable to attack'.

Firefighters tackle huge blaze at plant

DOZENS of firefighters were called to tackle a huge blaze that swept through a Birmingham recycling plant.

Crews remained on the scene Sunday night - 24 hours after the blaze started in the Nechells area. Firefighters were called to Hawkeswood Metal Recycling Ltd, in Trevor Street, on Saturday. Six crews were at the scene by 6pm. Smoke was still rising from the plant on Sunday.

Cinema jobs on way

MORE than 20 new jobs will be created at a new cinema being built in Walsall town centre.

Twenty-four people are needed to work at the Light Cinema, at the £12 million Waterfront development. Construction has been underway at the site since May.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



SIDDHARTHA Dhar, the British man suspected of appearing in the latest Islamic State murder video, was arrested in London in 2014. He was accused of belonging to the banned group Al-Muhajiroun and released on police bail. A few hours later he and his family simply hopped on a bus to Paris and then travelled to IS-controlled Syria. You may like to ponder this the next time some grinning security official confiscates your shampoo at the airport, or some pompous politician thunders on about "protecting our borders." Dhar's case is yet more proof that, whether undesirable are coming or going, Britain's borders are about as secure as a colander.

ANYONE who remembers the drought of 1976 will be wary about the latest plans to dredge rivers to let these billions of gallons of unwanted flood water escape into the sea as quickly as possible. Come August, we may wish we'd saved a bit.

YES, it was petty, vindictive and short-sighted. But the most worrying thing about Jeremy Corbyn's shadow cabinet reshuffle was that it was agonisingly slow. Assuming he ever got to Downing Street, how would this great thinker, debater, negotiator and all-round procrastinator react to a sudden crisis?

FOR four days the German media ignored an inconvenient truth. It was that on New Year's Eve a gang of up to 1,000 boys and men of North African or Arab appearance had poured into Cologne to rape, grope, mug and generally terrify women in what appeared to be a planned assault.



The local police chief describes the outrage as "a completely new dimension of crime." There were similar incidents in other German cities. A mass protest by women followed. Chancellor Merkel has expressed her disgust and the media have, at last, taken up the story ("Cologne inquiry into 'co-ordinated' New Year's Eve sex attacks" - Guardian, etc). It is bad enough that such a thing could have happened and been hushed up by the forces of political correctness. But it raises a truly terrifying question. If 1,000 alienated young males can organise an attack in the heart of a Western city for sexual purposes, what else might they do?

E-CIGARETTES may soon be available on prescription to help smokers give up the habit. One of the biggest manufacturers of these vaping devices is British American Tobacco. Which means our beloved NHS could soon be handing millions of pounds of our taxes over to the fag-makers.

SWITCHED on the radio to hear some totally disconnected sound-bite? I tuned in to catch a debate on Marks & Spencer where someone was "getting his teeth into the women's wear issue."

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Library just what doctor ordered



The street library at the pharmacy

A NEW community street library outside a pharmacy in Walsall offers free books and a place to sit down, as well as its usual medicine.

The Chuckery Little Free Library, which was created by local people alongside the charity Sustrans, features a bench and cupboards of donated books at A Karims Pharmacy on Kinnerley street.

The Library was designed by scout group 12th Walsall and built by local carpenter Jamie Begg of Seed Furniture.

The walls were decorated with a mosaic, painting and planters, created by people in Walsall with the help of local artists Sophie Handy and Elizabeth Fisher.

Pharmacist Nazmeen Khideja said she wanted to offer a community space which would encourage people to stay. Naz said: "People often stop to have a chat and I thought it would be great to have a bench outside so they can continue their conversations."

"The little free library allows people to sit down have a rest and a chat, and take away a book to read. There have been lots of donations and people enjoy sharing the books with each other."

Lock-up for man in pub attack over £200 debt

By Jordan Harris

A MAN who carried out a 'horrific' attack at a Willenhall pub over a £200 debt, leaving his victim with a broken jaw, has been jailed.

Danny Aiken, 49, of Harvesters Way, Short Heath, was jailed for five years and 10 months for a 'sustained' assault on a man who he lent the cash to a year before the attack.

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard how Aiken, who pleaded guilty to grievous bodily harm with intent, punched his victim to the ground and then kicked him and stamped on his head after the man was knocked to the ground.

When onlookers tried to intervene, he told them that it was 'personal'. The incident happened at the Red Lion pub in Bentley, Willenhall, on the Wolverhampton Road in November 2013.

The attack left Aiken's victim with a broken jaw, which has had to be operated on multiple times, and the court hear that to this day, he has problems with taste and sensation in the area.

Seizures

The court was also told that the victim has started suffering from seizures since the attack and has been unable to find work in his field of driving due to a dependence on medication.

Prosecuting, Mr Oliver Woodhouse, said: "The pair knew each other from attending the same pub for a number of years. Nearly 12 months prior to the night of the attack, Mr Aiken had borrowed the victim £200, which he had not yet had back. On that night, he had asked for the money back before telling the man to go outside. Once they were outside, he proceeded to punch him, followed by three kicks and two stamps to the head."

Defending, Mr Peter McCartney said that Aiken was a man of good character and that the attack was "10 to 15 seconds of madness". He said: "It is obvious that it was extremely out of character."

Road-sweeping machine blaze alert



A firefighter in attendance after a fire involving a propane gas cylinder on a road cleaning machine

A MAN suffered smoke inhalation when a propane gas cylinder attached to a road-sweeping machine caught fire. West Midlands Fire Service was called to the incident in Longcres, Willenhall, on Thursday January 28, just before 7pm.

The man, the only person involved, was treated for smoke inhalation, but is not believed to be seriously injured. The vehicle was not moving when the fire broke out. It is believed the cleaning machine was being taken to a workshop when the fire started.

It was 100 per cent engulfed in fire when crews from Willenhall fire station attended. The fire service have no details on the cause of the fire but insisted they were not investigating. It is not believed to be arson. It took crews 90 minutes to deal with the incident.

Alison Newey, a spokesman for the service, said that a thermal imaging camera was used as well two firefighters wearing breathing apparatus.

She said: "We received a call at 18.59 to attend a scene in Longcres in Willenhall. It was a cleaning machine with a propane bottle attached. It wasn't on the move, it was in situ in a workshop."

"We had two breathing apparatus wearers and a thermal imaging camera to identify any hotspots. One adult was treated for smoke inhalation. Our logs don't say how the fire started. The incident was closed at 20.30."

Willenhall fire crews took to social media site twitter to update residents on the fire, as well as post pictures of the completely burnt out machine and charred propane gas cylinder.

No licence tearaway smashed into tree

A TEENAGE tearaway who had never had a driving lesson in his life hurtled down a one-way street in the wrong direction at twice the speed limit, a judge heard.

Billy Ross did not even have a driving licence and had 'panicked' when spotted by police at the wheel of his mother's Rover in Lichfield Road, Pelsall, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told. The 18-year-old - defying a night time doorstep curfew imposed as part of his police bail on an unrelated matter - led the officers on a terrifying high speed chase, explained Mr Paul Spratt, prosecuting.

Labourer Ross tore up to a junction on the wrong side of the road and careered past a No Entry sign into a one-way street. Mr Spratt said: "The Rover accelerated into the road reaching speeds of 60 mph in a 30 zone."

The Rover continued at high speed during a 10-minute pursuit which ended when he hit a kerb and ploughed into a tree in Field Road, Blakenall writing off the car. He wasn't hurt, clambering out of the back into the arms of the law around 2.40am on December 31. "The car suffered catastrophic damage but his mother never made a formal complaint," concluded the prosecutor.

Ross was taken to hospital and refused to give a blood sample for analysis to determine whether he had been drinking. Mr Tim Talbot-Webb, defending, said: "He should have been at home observing the police night time curfew but got into the car to go and buy some cigarettes."

Ross from Abbotts Street, Bloxwich - who had been held in detention since the accident - admitted dangerous driving, failing to give a specimen, driving with neither insurance nor licence and failing to stop for the police.

He was given eight months detention in a Young Offenders Institution suspended for 18 months with 60 hours unpaid work and a three-month electronically monitored night time curfew along with a 20-month driving ban and £400 costs.

Manor issues swine flu alert

A NUMBER of patients have been admitted to Walsall Manor Hospital with swine flu in recent weeks, bosses have confirmed. Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust stated they had treated people for the virus but denied there had been any outbreak.

They have issued advice to people who were suffering flu-like symptoms.

Jo Ellison, head of infection control at the trust, said: "This year's seasonal influenza is predominantly the H1N1 (Swine flu) Strain. As with all winters, we are having some patients admitted from the community with influenza. The most important protection people can have is to be immunised and we would urge anyone who has an underlying health concern, who is pregnant or over 65, to arrange vaccination through their GP."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Retirement flats plan gets backing

PLANS for 35 retirement flats in Aldridge have been recommended for approval by development officers.

The major scheme, submitted by McCarthy and Stone, will see the former Millington York printing works at 41 Leighwood Road demolished to make way for the three-storey site.

There will be 20 one-bedroom flats and 15 two-bedrooms across three wings in the new building as well as a central courtyard.

Some residents who live nearby have objected to the scheme, arguing the site would be 'overdeveloped'.

Post office to open for longer

A REVAMPED Post Office will be unveiled in Walsall later this month which will be open for an extra 19 and a half hours a week.

The service on the Barns Lane Estate in Rushall will close at 5.30pm on Wednesday, February 10 and will reopen on Friday, February 19.

The branch's revised opening hours will be 8am to 7pm Monday to Saturday and 8am to midday Sunday.

Caroline Pritchard, Area Manager said: "The investment marks a commitment to no more branch closure programmes."

School is taken out of measures

A WALSALL primary school has been taken out of 'special measures' by education watchdog Ofsted.

Leamore Primary School in Bloxwich has been praised for its improvement since it was put in special measures in 2013. Under headteacher Michelle Hill, improvements have been made. Councillor Chris Towe, Walsall education boss, said "The strong leadership emerging from within Leamore has clearly played a big part in this recent result."

Popular fair tunes in to music memorabilia

A POPULAR music venue is hosting a fair for lovers of vinyl, CDs and memorabilia.

A record and CD fair will be held at The Robin 2 in Bilston on February 21, with around 10,000 records on the day. Collections and individual items from many genres will be on offer.

They will include rock, pop, jazz, soul and blues. There is an admission charge of £1 and doors are open from 11am-4pm. For table reservations call 07866 237094.

Library volunteers call

VOLUNTEERS of all ages are needed to help in Sandwell's 19 libraries. They are needed for a range of roles from sorting books and filling shelves, to helping put on events.

The minimum is 16 and to find out more e-mail library_admin@sandwell.gov.uk or call 0121 569 4911.

Steak claim to be most well-versed in contest

WITH Valentine's Day just around the corner, a Walsall pub is getting in the mood for love, as it calls for local lyricists to come up with a poem or love song – all about steak.

The Wheatshaf pub on Walsall Road, Great Wyrley, which is famed for its flame-grilled steaks, will be asking Walsall foodies to demonstrate their desire for the dish, with a limerick or song which can be submitted on the Flaming Grill website.

The Wheatshaf's 'steak-factor' judging panel will then select the star-crossed meat lover with the most romantic song or poem. The talented linguist will bag themselves a £250 Ticketmaster gift card and the title of Walsall's leading steak-connoisseur.

Paul Finn, general manager at the Wheatshaf, said: "We all know Valentine's Day is traditionally about declaring love for that extra-special someone, but for many there is no greater love than tucking into a delicious, freshly-grilled steak dinner.

"We're looking forward to seeing just how creative Walsall residents can be. We're certainly not expecting Shakespeare, but at least some attempt at rhyming would be good!"

To enter the 'Love Me Tender' competition, guests should submit their poems or songs online at www.flaminggrillpubs.com/lovemetender by Monday 15 February.

Entries should be no more than six lines long and can either be about love for steak or Flaming Grill. Winners will be announced on the Flaming Grill website on Monday 22 February.

Nursery funds call by MP Vaz

A WALSALL MP says she is writing to nursery schools in the borough to highlight £50 million of extra funding that is available to cater for an increased intake of youngsters.

Walsall South MP Valerie Vaz said headteachers had told her that more capacity would be needed at nursery schools following the introduction of 30 hours' free childcare for three and four-year-olds.

At Education Questions at Parliament recently Ms Vaz asked Education Minister Sam Gyimah what funds would be available to support nursery schools.

"He responded that £50m capital funding was allocated by the Treasury in the last Autumn Statement," she said.

Pavilion quiz to help good cause

WOLVERHAMPTON Christian Aid Committee holds a quiz night at the Goodyear Pavilion on Friday, February 19, starting at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £2.50 for teams of up to six. Call Roger Poole on 01902 730507.

Car wrecked in suspected arson attack



The damaged seats in the blaze-hit car

A CAR was wrecked by fire in a suspected arson attack in Bloxwich.

The light blue car suffered 50 per cent damage after it caught fire in Fountain Road last Tuesday at around 12.30pm.

Fire crews received a 999 call and dispatched one crew from Bloxwich station to the scene.

The crew used one hose reel jet to tackle the blaze before leaving the scene shortly before 1am.

No-one was injured but the fire service alerted police as the crew believed the fire could be an arson attack.

Matthew Smith, a spokesman for West Midlands Fire Service, said: "The incident involved one private motor vehicle which was well alight.

"Crews used one hose reel jet to tackle the blaze.

"The car was 50 per cent damaged. We asked for the police attendance as we believe it was arson."

Bloxwich Fire took to social media to alert followers about the fire.

The crew posted pictures of the car which showed the black seats in the back of the car having melted and charred.

The pictures also show the smashed back window of the car which had shattered because of the heat.

This suspected arson attack comes just a week after a car in Willenhall was torched in another suspected arson attack.

A blue Chevrolet Spark belonging to 47-year-old Tina Cole was destroyed the previous Thursday as it sat on the driveway of her Trentham Avenue home.

It is unknown if the two incidents are linked.

A £500,000 mosque and community centre will be built in Walsall as part of revived plans.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Association has lodged a proposal to convert a disused warehouse in Vicarage Place into the mosque.

The group had won an appeal five years ago to build the mosque with a minaret and community centre after it was rejected by Walsall Council. But the time limit to start work had passed and a fresh planning application is now required to start work.

Hundreds of people descended on the town hall in Walsall to oppose the plan in 2009.

Four petitions were submitted against the application bearing 848 names. There were concerns about the location of the site and traffic congestion fears.

Following the council's refusal, an appeal was lodged which saw the decision over-turned and permission granted. Dr Azkir Siddiq, president of the Walsall branch of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association, said funding issues had stalled progress at the site to the point.

Crucial

But he now said the community was 'determined' to go ahead with a project. He said: "These plans are still very much crucial to this community and to our future. We have waited for so long to get things moving and we have had to fight hard to get where we are today, which only makes us more determined.

"We have had to make sacrifices to get here and that means we can't give up halfway. As far as the controversy and opposition goes, we are more than happy to open a dialogue with anyone who has any questions about our plans, which are only to do good things for Walsall.

"We want to start work as soon as we can and hope the re-application process goes smoothly."

The disused warehouse in the St Matthews ward has been left empty for a number of years. A statement attached to the application said: "This development takes a disused building and site that has been left to decay and become a blot on the landscape of Walsall and regenerates it to form a mosque, community facility and dwelling."

Councillor Mohammed Arif, who represents the St Matthews ward and sits on the planning committee, said: "I would be pleased to see the site turned into something of benefit to the community."

Gas leak shock after supply check



Sheila Laverie, seen with her gas meter, which was replaced after she discovered a leak at her home

A DISABLED woman discovered a gas leak from her meter just hours after it was inspected by a sub-contractor from her housing association.

Sheila Laverie was having new kitchen fitted at her South Staffordshire Housing Association-owned property in Walsall Road, Great Wyrley.

The association called out a gas engineer to do a safety test of the supply, including a check on the

gas meter. But later that day, Mrs Laverie entered the house to a strong smell of gas. National Grid was called, and a gas leak was discovered coming from the gas meter, which was then replaced.

She said: "A gas company [the housing association's subcontractor] came out to the property, the problem seemed to be fixed and I was told everything was okay. But I later noticed a smell of gas near the front door."

National Grid came out within a few hours of the problem being reported on last Tuesday night and found the leak.

Mrs Laverie, aged 57, said: "If I had not used the front door I wonder what could have happened because there are also three bungalows in close proximity."

Richard Evans, SSHA spokesman, said despite the meter being replaced, all relevant checks had been carried out."

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Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. "Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people

money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people



I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



Well Trump that! Adele is definitely radio no no

THE singer Adele has complained about Donald Trump using her music during his bid to secure the Republican nomination for The White House. Couldn't agree more, it is bad enough having to hear her turgid dirges on the radio.

ANOTHER brilliant idea from the wacky world of local government. This time it's Hackney Council, which is planning to introduce £1,000 fines for vagrants sleeping in doorways. Good luck with enforcing that one. Let's hope they have their credit cards handy.

MANY years ago, when I was more than a bit gullible and naive, I made a half-hearted attempt to haggle with a car salesman, asking him to knock £28 off the price of a car I was about to buy.

The salesman, who up until that moment had been demonstrating more patter than Jimmy Tarbuck, then returned from a cloak-and-dagger meeting with the sales manager, sadly shaking his head saying he could only give me £8 off 'plus a good tank of petrol'.

Which reminds me a bit of David Cameron's attempt to renegotiate Britain's membership of the European Union. He didn't ask for much, and they gave him slightly less than he asked for.

I bought the thing anyway, and quickly grew to hate the sight of it when it kept blowing its head gasket. Would you be terribly surprised if the same turned out to be true for the new EU treaty?

THE story goes that when Elvis Presley lived at Graceland, only he was ever allowed upstairs. Not even his parents, who shared the mansion with him, were permitted in the bedrooms, lest they caught sight of him looking less than immaculate.

A bit extreme, maybe, but at least it shows he took a bit of pride in his appearance. Compare this to the story of Skerne Park Academy in Darlington, where headmistress Kate Chisholm caused an indignant backlash by asking parents if they would be so kind as to get dressed before they dropped their children off at school. Do these people have no self-respect? What sort of future will these children have if their parents tell them it is ok to turn up to the school gates in their pyjamas?

It's the same with dress-down Fridays at work. Why Friday, as opposed to dress-down Tuesday? Rightly or wrongly, the message it sends out is that they are already winding down for the weekend, and aren't really going to bust a gut unless they have to.

Now I don't go buy into the old adage that "Clothes maketh the man", but if somebody finds it too much effort to get dressed in the morning, perhaps they are not really cut out for the demanding role of bringing up a child.



A Kodak Brownie camera with parts from camera flash



Another one of Paul's many unique clocks



Paul Parry from Coven who makes unique clocks

Clocking on for some stunning timepieces

Paul Parry's spare time hobby is going places and has caught the attention of a Dragon Den's star, as JOE EDWARDS reports

TAKE a little time to take in these stunning timepieces.

They take months to produce and sell for thousands of pounds and are just some of the hundreds of stunning clocks made by Paul Parry in his spare time.

Mr Parry uses both upcycled electronics and new materials to make the clocks on evenings and weekends, from the spare bedroom of his home in Coven, near Wolverhampton.

The 43-year-old set up Bad Dog Designs with partner Karen in April 2014, and the business has taken flight with customers around the world looking to get their hands on a truly individual, unique design.

Rewards

'Dragons' Den star Theo Paphitis recently spotted Bad Dog Designs through his weekly Small Business Sunday initiative on Twitter, where he rewards entrepreneurs who send him a quick description of their business.

Paul recently showcased some of his designs at Liberty's department store in London and is due to meet Mr Paphitis at a Small Business Sunday convention at The ICC, Birmingham tomorrow.

With prices starting at around £300, Paul, who works in management for a systems maintenance infrastructure company, has been commissioned to produce a robot clock, using brass and stainless steel, for a hotel in Singapore which he will sell for £7,000, his biggest sale to date.

"The robot clock is on commission for £7,000 and is going to a boutique hotel in Singapore which is being built as we speak," said Paul.

"It will stand in the foyer and will be the first thing people see when they walk in."

Paul says he has now made around 200 different clocks during his spare time, all of which are signed by himself.

These include the Watson, which was origi-



Design taken from Turing's Bombe used to decode Enigma Machine messages

inally a 1938 watt meter, the Captain Nemo MK II, made from an old music box casing from the 1850s, and the Marconi MK II, styled to look like an old valve radio or amplifier.

"I only do evenings and weekends, some commissions can take around four to five months to complete. The robot clock will take 18-months," he added.

"The quickest I've ever done one is in two or three evenings but that was a small, simple clock. "The cost is a reflection of the time and effort that goes into every clock.

"Every one is different, everybody wants something unique to them. Hopefully somebody will come along some day and commission me to do a clock that is worth £20,000. When people see the clocks, they will ask 'what is that?' Then the second question will be 'where can I get one from?'"

Nixie tubes, which are used to display the time on Paul's steampunk clocks, were hugely popular in the 1950s and 60s and used in gadgets of the time, from petrol pumps to military equipment.

The last were made in Ukraine and Russia in the early 1990s, but Paul scours the internet for old tubes, which have a distinctive orange glow and each digit stacked behind the other within the tube. Small ones cost around £6 each, medium-sized ones approximately £30 and large ones can be bought for as much as £200.

"They are not economically viable for companies to produce, it's very much an old technology. Its a niche market," said Paul.

Every clock is handmade with recycled equipment and original vintage items, but modern microprocessor technology is used to power the old tubes. Most are named after famous scientists and electrical engineers, such as Michael Faraday, Nikola Tesla and Guglielmo Marconi.

People from all over the globe have bought a clock made by Paul, who remarkably doesn't own one himself.

"They're named after 17th and 18th century scientists - Faraday, Tesla, Gordon - mainly so I know which one is which," he added.

Celebrating

"I've done clocks celebrating birthdays, weddings, anniversaries and even as Christmas gifts. The enquires I get are from all over the place.

"When people see the clocks, they really do sell themselves. Around 30 to 40 per cent of my customers are repeat customers, which has surprised me.

"One guy from the United States has bought five off me. I've had people from the States and Singapore come over here to pick up their clocks.

"Sometimes when they are going out to China and Singapore, I'll use a shipping company but a lot do come over to pick them up and see how it all works.

"The business funds itself, a sale of a clock funds the parts for the next one.

"I love building the clocks, I find it relaxing. I have to sell them though, otherwise I'd just have a house full of them. I don't actually own one, but one of these days I will actually own a clock that I have made myself."

To see the full range of remarkable clocks which Paul has produced, visit www.bad-dog-designs.co.uk

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Threat to free TV licence for over-75s

THE BBC is due to assume the £700 million a year cost of handing out free licences to the elderly from 2020.

This shift of direct responsibility from the Government to the BBC for free licences for the over-75 age group will have implications. This free licence after 2020 is, as things stand, by no means certain to continue. There is already talk by the BBC about appealing to the over-75s to make 'donations' to the BBC towards their free licence. The BBC is also considering 'other options'.

If the free licence for the over-75s is guaranteed beyond 2020 by the BBC,

then it might well be at the cost of clawing this £700m from the licence payers who are under 75 years old. This could mean dramatic increases in the TV licence fee for the vast majority of householders, with a corresponding increase in the numbers falling into arrears.

Whilst I think the BBC is a massively important institution that needs protecting, I do not believe that the licence fee is the right approach to raising revenue for the BBC. It is ridiculous that failure to pay the licence fee results in a criminal prosecution and, if guilty,

a criminal record! If this were failure to pay gas or electricity bills, it would be a civil matter with no possibility of a criminal record for those utility bill debtors.

The better alternative way forward would be for the government to abolish licence fees completely and instead, to guarantee 'ring fenced' money for the BBC from general taxation, even if this means a relatively small upward adjustment in taxation in order to achieve this.

CLLR PETE SMITH
Blakenall ward, Walsall MBC

Cameron is now figure of ridicule

NOW we all know, as if we didn't before, just how Cameron has been deceiving the people of the UK with his continuing negotiation claims.

He is now a figure of ridicule in Brussels, as well as internationally.

He has achieved nothing, with no control over our borders, migrants will continue to receive full benefits with the faceless, corrupt cartel in Brussels still dictating what the UK is to suffer in the future.

Should the majority of referendum voters vote 'yes' to stay in the EU, then not only will they be supporting their demise, but also fellow voters for the foreseeable future.

Oh! For a strong leader to get us out of this mess, which, it seems obvious to me, Cameron is willing to accept as long as it keeps him in position at Number 10.

R SAUNDERS
Bloxwich
Walsall

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

EMAIL

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If PM likes Europe so much, emigrate!

IT seems our caring prime minister has done it again, giving a £490 million train-building job away to Spain, instead of looking after British workers' jobs. Yet, he is always shouting out during PMQs on TV highlighting all of the jobs he is bringing the UK.

Apparently, it is also on the books for the French to build two nuclear power stations in the UK, and our PM will let it happen. If he likes the continent that much, why doesn't he emigrate and live there?

As all the steel industry in the UK is being run down, will all the steel for any shipbuilding, and for the PMs 'white elephant', the HS2, be imported cheaply from China?

And as the US President Barack Obama says that the UK should remain in the EU, how would he feel if he had one of his neighbouring countries telling him how he should run the US; who he can or cannot allow in or cannot deport criminals, what items should be taxed, that fruit and vegetables cannot be sold if they are not straight, such as cucumbers. The President would not like it, but he expects the people of the UK to like it.

B J SMITH
Walsall

Reading up on literacy

I WELCOME that this last week marked the start of the 'Year of Reading' here in Walsall to encourage more literacy among all our young people.

However this is started at a time when the current Tory budget for Walsall proposes the closure of seven libraries, a key driver in the access to books. There has been strong opposition to such closures, shown in a number of petitions.

Libraries are at the centre of our communities and provide a lot more facilities than just to lend books.

CLLR IAN ROBERTSON
Walsall

Date is set for reunion

A REUNION is planned for pupils who left Darlaston Comprehensive School in 1976, at Bentley Pavilion on March 19. Tickets are from Hair by Wendy and Daughter, Church Street, Darlaston, on 0121 526 2575.

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Mother 'disgusted' at 'misdiagnosis' of son

A MOTHER says she is 'disgusted' with Walsall Manor Hospital's treatment after her son's condition was misdiagnosed for nearly three years.

Hayley Farren was told her child had suffered from a hydrocele when he was eight-months-old and he would be operated on when he was three.

When young Aiden Smith's birthday came and went, Miss Farren returned to her GP and finally saw consultant after her son had turned four.

She was then told Aiden did not have a hydrocele, which is a sack filled with fluid that forms around a testicle but he had in fact been suffering from a hernia.

Miss Smith said she had managed to get her son in for surgery by March - after originally being told she was on a 12 month waiting list - but she was still very angry with the hospital.

Suffering

She said: "They have misdiagnosed the problem and it could have been sorted out ages ago."

"For Aiden to go to the toilet is a long process and he has been constipated ever since his testicle first became swollen. Sometimes it can take him a week to go to the toilet and he's been suffering with that since he was eight-months-old."

"He should have been operated when he was three but we had to go back through our GP and then get referred to the hospital because we were forgotten about. It's not fair how long Aiden has had to wait and I think that's the most frustrating part."

Miss Farren, who also has a three-year-old son Kye, said it was hard to explain to Aiden why he was still in nappies when his little brother used



Hayley Farren, angry with the Manor Hospital over her son Aiden's treatment

pants. "There's only 10 months between them," she said.

"My youngest is now in nappies because of his condition. He does not know when he's going to go so I can't risk it but it's hard trying to explain it to him because he's a very bright lad."

Garry Perry, patient relations man-

ager at Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust said: "We apologise for Ms Farren's poor experience. We have looked into the issues raised and these have since been resolved. We welcome complaints as a way of improving our services and if Ms Farren has any further concerns we will be more than willing to look into them."

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Worshippers have faith in each other



From left, council officer Haroon Ravat, Father Mark McIntyre, Vicar at St Gabriels Parish Church, Imran Khan and Ruth Burgess, along with worshippers and visitors at the Aisha Mosque and Islamic Centre

WORSHIPPERS from two different faiths came together to find common ground as part of an exchange programme in Walsall.

A 20-strong congregation from St Gabriel's Parish Church, Fullbrook visited Aisha Mosque, Caldmore, joining their Muslim neighbours for a meal, chat, discussion on what their respective faiths share in common and a guided tour of the Mosque and Islamic Centre.

For many of the visitors to the mosque, it was a first-time opportunity to explore what an Islamic place of worship looks like and provided a

snapshot of what daily life is like in one of Walsall's busiest minority faith centres.

Father Mark McIntyre of St Gabriel's said: "We live in a volatile world situation where inter-religious conflict has sadly become a daily facet of news headlines at home and abroad.

"This is our attempt at realising the Biblical commandment of Matthew 'Blessed are the peacemakers' within our own town. We were very impressed and very grateful for the hospitality shown to us and we felt the day was a big step towards making our community a better place."

The mosque interfaith representative Imran Khan, with the support of Dr Israr Khan a well-known local GP, and the mosque youth club members took an active lead in the planning of this event.

Mr Khan said: "This exchange visit was a chance for our community to represent the global family and to show that people of difference within our own neighbourhoods strive for peace whatever their religious tradition might be.

"Our congregation are eagerly looking forward to a reciprocal visit to the church in the coming weeks too."

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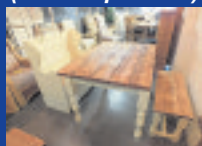


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Firm brushes up on award-win speech



Peter Wilkes, of Vale Brothers, collects the UKTI Export Award from BETA executive director Claire Williams

A WALSALL manufacturer of horse-grooming brushes is riding high after winning a national award.

The 2016 British Equestrian Trade Association's gala dinner held at the National Motorcycle Museum near Birmingham on Sunday January 24 saw Vale Brothers, based at Midland Road in Walsall, pick up the UKTI Export Award.

A spokesman explained that the award is presented to the company that has achieved sustained increases in export activity over a period of three years. He said: "This year saw the most nominations ever received

for the award. Judges noted that Vale Brothers was a company not afraid to tackle difficult markets.

"The winner showed a good strategic approach that didn't shy away from markets others might perceive as challenging. The company also proved the importance of market visits to get to know its customers, something that has patently reaped rewards."

Vale Brothers Ltd is the world's largest brush manufacturer specialising in horse grooming brushes, and has been in business since 1786.

In January 2001 the firm acquired the business of whip manufacturer

Edward Goddard Ltd, which was founded in 1887.

The highly-skilled work force now form an integral part of Vale Brothers, still producing quality whips by hand. The whip range is again probably the largest in the world with over 1,500 variants available.

Guests at the gala enjoyed a drinks reception before taking their seats for a three-course dinner. The event's raffle raised £1,600 for Riding for the Disabled and HorseBack UK. Prizes included a £240 leisure spa break voucher from Whittlebury Hall, in Northants.

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Curtains nearly ready to rise on new cinema

WALSALL'S first cinema in over 20 years is nearing the end of construction.

The multi-million pound Light Cinema is due to open on March 18 with tens of thousands of film fans expected to visit the venue throughout the year.

It will be the centrepiece of the £12 million Waterfront development which will also include a number of restaurants including the TGI Fridays chain.

Councillor Adrian Andrew, who is the business and employment chief for the council, has been at the heart of bringing the cinema and the Waterfront development as a whole to the borough.

He was recently given a tour of the new facility.

He said he was 'very excited' about the development which will 'greatly enhance' the leisure offer in the town.

Visitors

He added he 'cannot wait' until the work is completed.

He said: "It's a beautiful venue and represents fantastic value for Walsall's visitors."

"I'm very excited about this development which will greatly enhance the leisure package offered in the town centre."

"The Light Cinemas offers something different from other chains."

"I for one, cannot wait until it's completed."

"It's another part of the jigsaw in the regeneration of the town, creating employment and leisure opportunities for people to enjoy. I'm delighted to have been involved in the project since its beginning."

The cinema, which has been under construction since May last year, will also feature a new cafe called the Green Room and is expected to show



Cllr Adrian Andrew and Phil Dove



The Green Room cafe taking shape



Inside one of the auditoriums itself baby-friendly films and those suitable for autistic viewers and those with dementia.

Walsall council have been told by the cinema's operators that the venue will look to show more than 200 films, operas, plays and concerts this year alone.



Outside, the huge cinema complex Councillor Mike Bird, Walsall's council leader, has said he thinks the Waterfront development could rival Wolverhampton's popular Bentley Bridge site.

He also heaped praise onto Councillor Andrew for attracting the development to the borough.

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The entrance to Henry Meadows on Park Lane where Lawrence worked on boat engines



Colonel Lawrence seen with Winston Churchill in 1921



Lawrence seen on a motorbike. He died following a crash in 1935, aged just 46



The house in Copthorne Road, where Lawrence stayed



Windermere House seen from around the time he stayed

How Lawrence left desert for Midlands

FORGOTTEN images of Lawrence of Arabia – who lived and worked in Wolverhampton after his exploits in the desert – have been discovered at a records office in Northern Ireland.

British officer TE Lawrence was best known for his campaigns in the Middle East during the First World War when he helped promote rebellion against the failing Ottoman Empire.

Among the photographs are two of Lawrence astride the motorcycle he was fatally injured on in May 1935 in Dorset. He died aged 46, two months after leaving military service.

It was his interest in motor engines that brought him to the Black Country in January 1934 to work at the engineering firm Henry Meadows in Park Lane, Fallings Park, where he signed himself in

MEMORY LANE

By Marion Brennan

as 'T E Shaw'. He also used the alias 'T E Smith' when signing the visitors book at the Victoria Hotel in Wolverhampton but was recognised one night in the lounge by someone who had served with him in Arabia during the war.

Lawrence then took refuge at Perry's tea rooms in Queen Street, where he liked to discuss football and motorbikes with the other customers, who had no idea who he was.

Importance

At Henry Meadows, he would sit cross-legged on the floor, Arabian-style, working on the development of twin engine air/sea rescue boats for the RAF, a mission of national importance. He lodged at Henry Meadows' home at Windermere House in Copthorne Road.

The latest pictures to emerge were taken from the papers of Law-

rence's biographer, Belfast-born Harford Montgomery Hyde, for *Solitary In The Ranks: Lawrence Of Arabia As Airman And Private Soldier*, printed in 1977.

Lawrence's job during the war was to help prompt insurrection among the Arab subjects of the Ottoman Empire. The images were found in the archives by Public Record Office of Northern Ireland staff member Colin Shaw.

He said: "I subsequently found out that Hugh Cairns, the neurosurgeon who tended his injuries, would later write a pioneering study entitled 'Head injuries in Motor-cyclists – the importance of the crash helmet', which would lead to the British Army ordering all despatch riders to wear safety helmets in November 1941."

Lawrence was a practising archaeologist in the Middle East before he joined the Army. After the war he experienced difficulties readjusting to post-war life, and enlisted in the RAF. He went on to work for Winston Churchill and refused a knighthood.



A drawing of the soldier, immortalised in the film Lawrence of Arabia

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We need you! War display at museum



Taking a look at the Walsall at War exhibition, collections officer Catherine Lister, at Walsall Leather Museum

THE 100th anniversary of one of the heaviest air raids of the First World War is being commemorated in an exhibition at Walsall Leather Museum.

On the night of January 31, 1916, Walsall, Wednesbury, Tipton and Bradley were bombed by Zeppelins. Thirty-five people lost their lives including the then Mayoress Mary Julia Salter. Museum staff are marking the anniversary of that fateful night with an exhibition to Walsall's contribution to the First World War.

Walsall at War, which will be on display at the museum until April 16, is centred around the shell of what is believed to be one of the incendiary bombs dropped on the town.

It also features weapons, medals, and souvenirs from the borough's men on the frontline, Jerome K Jerome's Red Cross uniform and goods produced locally by men and women during the war.

Collections officer Catherine Lister said: "The Zeppelin strikes hit Walsall hard in more ways than one, the loss of life was so tragic we still remember it today."

Rehab visit prisoner in assault back behind bars

A RECENTLY released prisoner, from Walsall, was back behind bars for two and a half years after sexually assaulting a female support worker at a rehabilitation centre.

Gary Adams touched her on the breast over her clothing while the pair were in the office together on January 6, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

Mr Edward Soulsby, prosecuting, explained: "She pushed him away so that he could not take things further although she felt that he was prepared to. Sadly the incident has had a profound effect on her."

Adams, aged 58, had a longstanding problem with alcohol and the victim explained in a statement: "I had spent the day trying to get him to stop drinking but he just subjected me to foul language. All I wanted to do was help and then he sexually assaulted me. I have had trouble sleeping since the incident and have been off work with stress."

The rehabilitation centre where she works helps released prisoners with drink problems. Adams was regularly drunk and abusive in his home town of Walsall and had an anti social behaviour order slapped on him in an effort to stop

being such a pest but it has led to him being regularly sent to prison for breaking the order.

Miss Aimee Parkes, defending Adams, said: "He is totally ashamed of himself after this latest incident which was completely out of character. He has never appeared before a court accused of a sexual offence before. He wants to stop drinking because he knows it will kill him otherwise. All his family have disowned him because of his addiction and he has been homeless for many years. He has even slept in skips."

Adams, of no fixed address, admitted sexual assault and breaking the terms of his anti-social behaviour order and was jailed for 30 months by Judge Advocate Michael Elsom.

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Wedding fair looks set to be a real page turner

WOLVERHAMPTON Magazine hosts its fifth annual wedding fair and due to its continued success the show will be held at Molineux for the first time.

The wedding fair has previously been staged at The Mount Hotel, but to accommodate growing demand for exhibition space, is moving to a larger venue.

Brides-to-be are expected to flock to Wolverhampton Magazine's Wedding Fair planned for Sunday March 20, from 11am to 4pm.

Organisers are excited to have netted a superb exhibition space at Molineux, one of the most iconic landmarks in Wolverhampton.

The event will be held in the modern, stylish WV1 suite, overlooking the pitch, and the goal is to ensure visitors walk away with ideas galore for the big day. The increased space means people will be able to browse up to 45 stands at their leisure.

Furniture

Located right in the heart of the city, the home of Wolverhampton Wanderers is an easily accessible venue for couples from across the area and has excellent public transport links. Plus, there's free car parking for up to 300 cars. To help couples plan their dream wedding, the fair, sponsored by Cousins Furniture, will boast specialists who can cater for every requirement, from the all-important dress, to the car a bride books to get them to the church on time.

Wolverhampton Magazine editor Karen Knowles says: "It's a huge trend for brides and grooms to customise all aspects of their big day, down to the very last detail and, with more exhibitors than ever, our wedding fair



Cake maker extraordinaire Caterina Bianchi at last year's wedding fair

will offer plenty to inspire. Nowadays, there are so many ways to personalise your event, from unique bridal bouquets which include flowers from your garden - to monogrammed favours and place settings. "It's all about creating a wedding that reflects your personality and tastes" If you would like more information about exhibiting at Wolverhampton Magazine's Wedding Fair ring advertisement supervisor Deana Jones on 01902 319693; email deana.jones@expressandstar.co.uk or Leah Edmunds on 01902 319619; email leah.edmunds@expressandstar.co.uk

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Fan puts shirt on fundraising success



Oliver Beckett and Romaine Sawyers with the signed shirt, together with his father David and mascot Swiftly

A YOUNG Saddlers supporter has been awarded a replica shirt for his team ahead of a charity night he is hosting.

Oliver Beckett plans to raffle off the Walsall FC shirt at the fundraising night in aid of the Bullmastiff Rescue and Adoption Charity.

The 12-year-old from Birchills was presented the shirt by his favourite player Romaine Sawyers prior to the Banks's Stadium game against Blackpool.

Oliver said: "A massive thank you to Walsall FC who gave me a signed shirt to form one of our prizes in our

upcoming fundraising evening. It was presented to me by Romaine Sawyers, my favourite player."

The shirt, which is being framed, is one of a number of raffle prizes for the night including a selection of spirits, signed Walsall FC goalkeeping gloves and a 32 inch TV.

They will be auctioned off at a fundraising evening organised by Oliver, taking place on March 11 at the Gunners Club 2 in Beeches Road in Leamore. As well as the raffle, entertainment for the evening will be provided by local band Friction.

Oliver's father David said: "He

comes up with these ideas all by himself. For Christmas he asked us to take one present off his list and donate the money it would've cost to Bullmastiff Rescue.

"He also asked relatives to not buy him presents and just donate the money instead.

"For the event he's hoping to have 200 people on the night. He's probably raised over £3,000 for the charity by now."

Last year Oliver was crowned fundraiser of the year by the Kennel Club and also won outstanding young person for the year at Crufts.

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Decade behind bars for gun-toting dealer who rammed three police cars

A DRUG dealer has been jailed for more than 10 years after a police swoop unearthed two guns in a car parked outside his home.

Unemployed Nathan Morris was arrested after being seen dealing drugs from his car in Church Street, Darlaston, on August 26.

The 28-year-old realised he had been spotted, reversed at speed and rammed three police cars and another stationary vehicle in a frantic bid to escape, West Midlands Police revealed. Officers managed to stop the car and detained Morris while a search of the car revealed several wraps of drugs and two mobile phones.

Police then raided his home in Madison Avenue, Brierley Hill, where they discovered a large quantity of heroin and cocaine. They also combed a black Ford Mondeo parked outside for which Morris had the ignition key, police said.

They found more drugs and two firearms – a bolt action shotgun and a smooth bore revolver – in the vehicle along with some shotgun shells.

He changed his plea to guilty at Wol-



Nathan Morris, aged 28

verhampton Crown Court where he was due to stand trial accused of possession of two firearms, ammunition, heroin and cocaine, together with dangerous driving.

Morris pleaded not guilty to all the offences and was remanded for trial, however he changed his plea at the start



Church Street in Darlaston – where Nathan Morris was arrested

of the hearing and was sentenced to 10 years and three months.

Inspector Keeley Bevington, from Walsall Police, said: "This lengthy sentence shows gun and drug crime have no place in our communities."

Assistant Chief Constable Carl Foulkes said: "The public are our eyes and

ears in our long-term plan to tackle gun crime and I want to appeal directly to our communities to contact us with any information you have about gun and gang crime." Scores of crooks from the Black Country were jailed after a six-week blitz on crime, police revealed this week. Officers in Sandwell have issued



The shotgun and revolver found in a nearby car

their thanks to members of the public for their help in bringing the criminals to justice as part of the Safer Six campaign. West Midlands Police said a total of 64 arrests were made in a crackdown in spring last year which was specifically aimed at tackling suspected drug dealers.

TV licence call by MP to over 75s

WALSALL MP David Winnick has advised residents aged over 75 not to pay their licence fee.

Those over 75 are currently exempt from the fee but the BBC are set to urge pensioners to pay.

Mr Winnick says this situation has arisen because 'the present government has put the costs involved onto the BBC' but he says the corporation should have resisted and 'made clear the responsibility is on the Government alone'.

He said: "The Tories promised at the last election that, amongst the concessions introduced by the Labour government, including the exemption from the television licence for this particular age group, would continue. Having made that promise, ministers should accept that the costs should fall on the Government and not on the BBC."

"The BBC should now go back to the Treasury and re-negotiate the arrangement made since the election."

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IT'S Back – Britain's biggest consumer tech show, Gadget Show Live, returns to Birmingham's NEC this Easter.

The show which runs from Thursday, March 31 to Sunday, April 3, features four fantastic new areas this year – Better Life, Power Up, The Lab and The Arcade – making it the perfect day out for everyone.

And the Chronicles have teamed up with the organisers to give 20 readers the chance to win a pair of tickets to the show.

The Super Theatre also makes a powerful return as presenters Jason Bradbury, Jon Bentley, Oris Deley and Amy Williams host an hour-long performance overflowing with tech treats.

For the first time ever, the Super Theatre performances, featuring the

TV show's presenters, will be filmed for an episode of The Gadget Show to be broadcast on Channel Five later this year giving visitors the chance to feature in the programme alongside the presenters.

The new areas include:- Better Life – where visitors will discover tech that's been engineered to enhance their everyday lives.

Power Up – finding technology with the power to drive lives forward

The Lab – concept and innovation are integral to modern day tech and visitors can discover inspirational tech for the future

The Arcade – the place for gamers to become truly immersed in the very latest titles on the market

For more information and tickets, please visit gadgetshowlive.net



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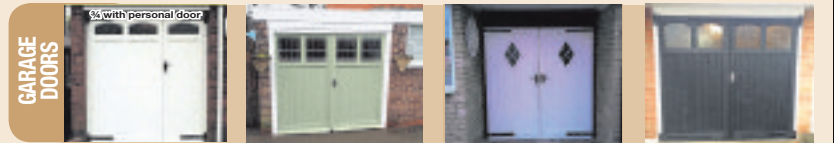
To be in with a chance of winning simply answer this question.

What are the new areas called?

Send answer on a postcard with your name, address and contact number to Gadget Show Competition, Chronicle Series (Editorial) 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES. Closing date Thursday, February 18. Usual rules apply. Editor's decision final.

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Strictly Stunning

Salsa dancer Norma's new smile would get a 'ten from Len'



Norma Aston – all my confidence is back

APICTURE snapped at a dance group's farewell party to mark a friend's departure to Jamaica showed more than what vivacious Norma Aston was expecting.

As the well-wishes were made and memorable dancing stories exchanged amongst members of the Uksalsafeet classes at Willenhall's Chart Centre, the cameras and smart phones did their work.

But a single profile shot of Norma captured a different story to all the other photographs taken at that event.

"My teeth had been troublesome for years,

but when I saw the photo and realised just how far forward my top teeth had moved I knew I had to get something done. It was a turning point for me," recalls Norma of Willenhall.

The youthful 60-something-year-old salsa enthusiast, who attends classes every Saturday to help perfect her technique in this pastime made popular by programmes like Strictly Come Dancing, adds: "There were a number of things that came together which encouraged me to get things sorted.

"I had seen an article in my local paper about a woman, Ann [Skitt], who attends the same gym as myself at the centre. I was

impressed how problems with her teeth were resolved."

Ann, a patient of Denture Clinic principal Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS(Eng), suffered with an ill-fitting, lower denture and a long-standing issue was fixed with an implant-retained prosthesis.

Adds Norma: "I knew what I wanted and was already in my mind going down the implant denture route.

"At the same time, my step-daughter was encouraging me to see her implant dentist, the well-respected Dr Owain Rees."

"I asked my regular dentist to refer me to Steven and a consultation was arranged. Dental work is such a visual thing and unlike hospital surgical work we get to choose who undertakes it.

"It was so important for me that I made the correct choice."

Enthusiastic

Husband Don, a former design engineer and dance band frontman, who met Norma 32 years ago while playing at the Corpus Christi Centre, Wednesfield, takes up the story: "We'd done some research, but websites can really say anything and it's not the same as getting an impression face to face. When we saw Steven, he was so enthusiastic about his work and instilled



North Street's dental implant surgeon, Dr Owain Rees (left) BDS, DGD (UK) Dip Imp Dent (UCL) GDC 61576 with principal Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS(Eng) GDC 108353

confidence in us that his clinic would be able to do the job well. But I had one searching question that was really important to me. I told him 'I know my wife' and then asked: 'Will she still be the same after the work is completed?'

"Steven was very reassuring and told me she would look the same, but with better teeth. We were never pressured and told to go away and think things through before making a decision."

With referrals in-house, Norma was seen by North Street Dental and Implant Clinic surgeon Dr Owain Rees BDS, DGD (UK) DIP IMP DENT (UCL). Under one roof, with four modern surgeries, the clinical discipline of high quality denture provision sits side by side with general, cosmetic and implant

dentistry. Norma's treatment plan included intravenous sedation, the placing of six lower implants to support a removable overdenture and a traditional upper denture prescription. The former City Hospital accounts manager, says: "Knowing that Owain was going to do the surgery was great.

"He explained everything and I embraced the treatment plan.

"I'd always cared for my teeth, but I have a family history of gum problems and for more than 20 years I'd had a partial denture. I never realised it didn't fit properly until I saw Steven. I'd just grown into it.

"My new teeth . . . I couldn't ask for more and I'm amazed at the difference. They look so natural," she adds. Don agrees her new smile is "stunning."

Confidence is back

Norma enjoys a hectic lifestyle juggling dancing with personal commitments and volunteer stints at the Locksmith's House, Willenhall, a well-preserved piece of living Victorian history.

"I love working there and Don helps too. I used to be self-conscious of my smile when meeting people and was always careful how I smiled. Now I have all my confidence back and my only regret is that I didn't get my teeth sorted out three years ago."

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Wham-bam here come Telegram

ALBUMS

by Leon Burakowski

SWAGGERING onto the scene come a new gang of hip indie rockers, who draw on the glam traditions of Bowie and Bolan with the swashbuckle of Suede.

Welcome then, **Telegram**, an Anglo-Welsh quartet who are currently causing a stir on the London scene and try to live up to the hype with their dashing debut **Operator**.

The album perhaps promises more than it delivers but it is never less than entertaining. Singer Matt Saunders sounds like a Welsh Bryan Ferry, circa Virginia Plain, while the guitars and drums crash with the casual abandon of The Libertines or Palma Violets.

A Roxy Music comparison is not too far-fetched as two of the group were once in a tribute band called Proxy Music. Quirky Welsh outfit Super Furry Animals may also be an influence.

Highlights include forthcoming single Taffy Come Home, Aeons with its echoes of The Who and early Pink Floyd, and the driving Jam-like bonus track Have It Your Way.

Find out what all the fuss is about at The Hare and Hounds in Kings Heath tonight (Thu) before they put up the venue full sign.

The Canadian folk singer-songwriter **Basia Bulat** embraces an atmospheric pop/rock sound on her fourth album **Good Advice**, and the venture is an unqualified success.

Her friend and collaborator Jim James, of Kentucky rockers My Morning Jacket, is at the controls and has helped her craft an album that starts well and gets even better.

With a voice that is strong and confident, yet has a vulnerable tone, Bulat straight away proves her pop credentials with La La Lie, which is then surpassed by Fool.

Her influences are hard to pin down,



New indie rock darlings Telegram have their roots in a Roxy Music tribute

and that can only be a good thing, the sign of a highly original talent.

On the album's final two tracks, The Garden and Sometown Soon, she raises her game again on a blissful high.

You may have already heard the music of **Stephanie Kirkham** without realising it as her catchy tune Easy As 123, featured on new album **Tiny Spark**, has been used to advertise Peugeot and EDF. Sweet-voiced singer Kirkham is a maker of relentlessly upbeat folk-pop, festooned with ukulele, flute and xylophone. It is sugary but only a curmudgeon could deny her charm or indeed her optimism.

The Lancastrian singer-songwriter had a brush with fame before but her original record deal fell through and there has been a ten year gap between her second and third albums.

Cherry Red Records have come up with another essential selection for fans of 1960s music under their RPM imprint, **Looking Stateside: 80 US**

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Collectors have plucked three CD's worth of vinyl rarities taking in dance crazes, stinging instrumentals, soul groovers and garage rock, and the vast majority are gems for fans of the swinging 60s. Highlights on disco one include the feisty females Georgia Lynn (Sugar Shack Queen), Millie Foster (Love Wheel) and bluesy better Little Gigi (Take The Bitter With The Sweet).

Disc two is straight up top-notch Northern Soul from such as Chuck Jackson, Timi Yuro, Joe Tex, Sheila Ferguson (pre-Three Degrees), including the showstoppers I've Got To Keep Movin' by Charles Lamont & The Extremes, Put That Woman Down by John Leach and Can't Live Without You by The Jaywakers.

Disc three is garage rock and mod beat including the young Jimi Hendrix's favourite local band The Wailers, influential outfit The Sonics and a 60s track by rock 'n' roller Gene Vincent.

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Gabrielle Aplin



Sunday, 7pm
O2 Institute, Bham

Spend Valentine's Day evening with the 23-year-old singer-songwriter from Wiltshire who has had success in the UK and Australia with her albums English Rain and Light Up The Dark. www.o2institutebirmingham.co.uk

NME Awards Tour 2016



Friday, 6pm
O2 Academy, B'ham

The bill is topped by Bloc Party but younger fans will want to see Rat Boy (pictured) sing about video games and fake ID. Dreng and Bugzy Malone also feature. Visit www.academymusicgroup.com

Ezra Furman



Tuesday, 7pm
Glee Club, B'ham

As seen on Later with Jools Holland, this true original from Chicago, now based in San Francisco, has won fans with his Perpetual Motion People album. Visit www.glee.co.uk

CBSO Benevolent Fund Concert



Sunday, 3pm
Symphony Hall, B'ham

The Ukrainian violinist, Valeriy Sokolov, performs with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of John Wilson, in aid of a good cause. Visit www.thsh.co.uk

POP & ROCK

The Sherlocks

Tue at 7pm - 11pm, £8
The Rainbow, Birmingham, B12 0LD. Call 0121 753 1818

Snuff

Sat at 7pm, £15
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320 7000

Soul Junction

Sat at 7pm,
The RoadHouse Birmingham, B30 3DZ. Call 0121 246 2273

Blank Parody

Sat at 7pm,
The Rainbow, Birmingham, B12 0LD. Call 0121 753 1818

Terry And Gerry

Wed at 7pm,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ. Call 0844 870 0000

The World Is A Beautiful Place & I Am No Longer Afraid To Die + Mewithoutyou

Fri at 6pm, £10
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY. Call 0121 643 0428

Ezra Furman

Tue at 7pm - 11pm, £12.50
The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

The Mersey Beatles: The Beatles Tribute

Sun at 7pm, £16.50
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ. Call 0844 870 0000

Jesse Malin

Thu at 7pm,
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY. Call 0121 643 0428

Fatherson

Mon at 7pm - 11pm,
The Rainbow, Birmingham, B12 0LD. Call 0121 753 1818

Mystery Jets

Thu at 7pm - 11pm,
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY. Call 0121 643 0428

Graham Bonnet Band

Fri at 7pm,
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320 7000

Slipknot

Fri at 7pm,
Genting Arena, Birmingham, B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

Heather Small - The Voice Of M People

Wed at 9pm,
The Jam House, Birmingham, B31QU. Call 0121 200 3030

Money

Thu at 8pm - 11pm,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ. Call 0844 870 0000

Kerrang Tour 2016

Fri at 6.30pm - 10pm,
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY. Call 0121 643 0428

Johnny 2 Bad: UB40 Tribute

Thu at 9.30pm,
The Jam House, Birmingham, B31QU. Call 0121 200 3030

Hue And Cry

Tue at 7.30pm,
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

NME Awards Tour 2016

Fri at 7pm,
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Up4 The Downstroke

Fri at 9pm, Sat at 9pm, £5 - £10
The Jam House, Birmingham, B31QU. Call 0121 200 3030

Bars And Melody

Wed at 6pm, £20
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Emilia Martenson

Fri at 8.30pm,
The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

Raymond Froggatt

Sun at 8.30pm, £17
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Gabrielle Aplin

Sun at 7pm, £12.50
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY. Call 0121 643 0428

Sanchez & Romain Virgo

Sun at 6pm,
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Symphony X

Fri at 8.30pm, £17
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

The Definitive Elvis Experience

Sat at 7.30pm,
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE. Call 01543 578762

All Time Low

Sat at 6pm, £28.20
Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham, B1 2AA. Call 0121 780 4141

FOLK & ACOUSTIC

Willie And The Bandits

Thu at 7.30pm, £10
The Robin, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Christopher Paul Stelling

Wed at 7.30pm,
Hare & Hounds, 1 Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ. Call 0844 870 0000

Michael McGoldrick, John McCusker & John Doyle

Sun at 8pm,
mac, Cannon Hill Road, Birmingham, B12 9QH. Call 0121 446 3232

Pete Kent

Wed at 7.30pm,
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

The Legends Of American Country Show: Tribute

Mon at 8pm,
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats

Mon at 7pm, £10
The Institute, Birmingham, B5 6DY. Call 0121 643 0428

Runrig

Thu at 8pm
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

JAZZ & BLUES

The Tim Amann X-Tet

Tue at 8.30pm,
The Jam House, Birmingham, B31QU. Call 0121 200 3030

CLASSICAL & OTHER MUSIC

Hermes Ensemble

Fri at 1.10pm,
Barber Institute of Fine Arts, University of Birmingham, B15 2TS. Call 0121 414 7333

The En Suite Electric Band

Fri at 7pm,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Fidelio Trio

Wed at 7.30pm,
Barber Institute of Fine Arts, University of Birmingham, B15 2TS. Call 0121 414 7333

BICS 2015/16 Maria Joao Pires And Milos Popovic In Recital

Fri at 1pm,
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

Emma Johnson & Mozart's Clarinet Concerto

Wed at 2.30pm - 4.30pm,
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

CBSO Benevolent Fund Concert

Sun at 3pm,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

CBSO 2015-16 - Tchaikovsky's Sixth

Wed at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £45
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

CBSO 2015-16 - Beethoven Piano Concertos

Sat at 3pm, £12.50 - £45
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

The Big Band Evening

Sun at 8pm, £2
Great Wyrley Sports & Social Club, Walsall Road, WS6 6DP. Call 01543 502997

THEATRE

The Simon And Garfunkel Story

Sat at 7.30pm, £17.50
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Egg And Spoon (Under 5s)

Tue at 1.30pm, 3.30pm,
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

The Lost Things

Thu at 11.30am, 2.30pm,
mac, Cannon Hill Road, Birmingham, B12 9QH. Call 0121 446 3232

Jersey Boys

Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Mon at 7.30pm, Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf?: Stafford Players

Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.30pm,
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

20 Stories High And Theatre-Rites: The Broke 'N' Beat Collective

Tue at 5pm, 8pm, Wed at 8pm, mac, Cannon Hill Road, Birmingham, B12 9QH. Call 0121 446 3232

Of Mice And Men

Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.30pm, £8.50 - £35
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Private Lives

Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm,
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS. Call 0844 871 3011

Impossible

Sun at 3pm,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Single Spies

Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at 2pm, 7pm,
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Cabaret XXL 2016

Tue at 9.30pm,
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Dinosaur Zoo Meet The T Rex

Sat at 1pm, 3.30pm, Sun at 11pm, Mon at 2pm,
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

Kite

Tue at 11.30am, 2.30pm, Wed at 11.30am, 2.30pm,
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Cinderella: Krazy Kat Theatre

Sat at 11.30am - 1.50pm, 2pm - 4.20pm,
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Matthew Bourne's Sleeping Beauty

Fri at 7.30pm - 10pm, Sat at 2pm - 4.30pm, 7.30pm - 10pm, £18.50 - £42.50
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

Stags And Hens

Fri at 7.30pm,
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE. Call 01543 578762

Birmingham Royal Ballet: The Dream & A Month In The Country

Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at 2pm, 7.30pm, £10 - £26
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

COMEDY

Brian Conley: Alive And Dangerous

Thu at 8pm,
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Jimeoin: Yeehaa

Tue at 7pm,
Wolverhampton Slad Rooms, WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320 7000

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Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star

Seeing the funny side of treachery



Nicholas Farrell, Belinda Lang and David Robb in *Single Spies*, being staged at Birmingham Rep picture by Hugo Glendinning

TREACHERY has never been more entertaining than in *Single Spies*.

This double bill of comedies by Alan Bennett is being staged at Birmingham Repertory Theatre next week.

Single Spies runs from February 17 to 27 and is directed by Olivier Award-nominated Rachel Kavanaugh, the former artistic director of Birmingham Rep.

Bennett's award-winning espionage double bill is a pointedly satirical snapshot of two infamous spies, Guy Burgess and Anthony Blunt. Both rose to prominent positions in the British establishment but had been recruited as agents by the Soviet Union when students in the 1930s.

An Englishman Abroad chronicles actress Coral Browne's meeting with Burgess as he tried to adapt to life as a Soviet citizen in 1950s Moscow.

A Question of Attribution gives us a glimpse into Blunt's double-life as an art historian to royalty and a Soviet spy, which culminates in a sharp interrogation by the Queen.

An Englishman Abroad and A Question of Attribution stars David Robb – recently seen as Dr Clarkson in *Downton Abbey* – with Belinda Lang and Nicholas Farrell. Tickets are £13.50 to £35, see www.birmingham-rep.co.uk or call 0121 236 4455.



It's Joe on Fast Forward

SINGER-SONGWRITER Joe Jackson will headline Birmingham's O2 Institute tonight (Thu) to promote his latest album, *Fast Forward*.

Staffordshire-born Jackson found fame in 1979 with *Is She Really Going Out With Him?* and *It's Different For Girls*, and had another major hit with *Steppin' Out* three years later. Now he is touring Europe with his first collection of original songs in seven years. The album was released in October 2 to a host of excellent reviews.

The tour kicked off in Dublin last week and will end in Berlin, Jackson's second home, in March. The career-spanning shows will feature Jackson as his own opening act. He will play a short solo/piano set before bringing out his full band.

Fast Forward was written in four cities: New York, New Orleans, Berlin and Amsterdam. Jackson says: "Mostly it was the musicians that drew me to those places rather than the places themselves, and a few of the songs were kind of obvious. I mean, like 'Kings Of The City' is definitely a New York song, 'If I Could See Your Face' is definitely a Berlin song, and 'Neon Rain,' I was thinking about New Orleans when I wrote it.

"You know, if anyone asked me to describe my new album, or how I feel about it or anything like that, I just say it's great. I mean, I have no guarantees that anyone else in the world is gonna think so, so I think it may as well start out with me thinking that."

Telegram kick off tour at Brum pub

LONDON band Telegram, the new darlings of the indie scene, will give local rock fans the chance to find out what the fuss is about at Birmingham's Hare and Hounds tonight (Thu).

Meanwhile, in the Kings Heath pub's other room that night will be fast-rising Mancunian indie rockers Spring King.

Brighton band Fickle Friends, fronted by singer Natassia Shiner, celebrate their new major label deal by playing Stourbridge River Rooms tomorrow (Fri). That's the same night the Kerrang! Tour rolls into Brum with Sum 41, Frank Carter & The Rattlesnakes, ROAM and Bitters at The O2 Institute in Digbeth.

Illusionists ready to do the Impossible

SPECTACULAR magic show Impossible is bringing six top illusionists and magicians to the New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, from Tuesday to Saturday, February 20.

The show promises death-defying stunts, grand stage illusions and close-up magic. The line-up includes daredevil escapologist Jonathan Goodwin; from Britain's Got Talent, James More; Cirque du Soleil trickster Lee Thompson; London conjurer and break-dancer Magical Bones; mind reader Chris Cox; and former Young Magician of the Year Ben Hart.

See www.atgtickets.com/birmingham for further details.

Classic rock and acoustic guitar

GRAHAM Bonnet, the voice of Rainbow's *Since You've Been Gone*, brings his band to Wolverhampton's Slade Rooms tomorrow (Fri).

There's a treat for Pink Floyd fans on Saturday at the Symphony Hall in Birmingham when Symphonic Pink Floyd will be performing *Wish You Were Here* plus a selection of other Floyd favourites with a 55 piece orchestra, to the backdrop of Fritz Lang's early sci-fi classic *Metropolis*.

The Counterfeit Stones play Bilston's Robin 2 on Saturday. Acoustic fingerstyle guitarist Pete Kent is at the same venue on Wednesday, February 17.

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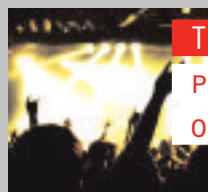
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CHOICE



Ricky Wilson

The Voice UK (BBC1, 7.15pm)

Time is running out for Paloma Faith, Boy George, Will.i.am and Ricky Wilson to build their teams, as the contest reaches the sixth and penultimate round of 'blind auditions'. This week, the superstar coaches hear from former UK Eurovision entrant Paul Phoenix, and Mike Berry, the former pop star perhaps better known for his work as an actor in Are You Being Served? and Worzel Gummidge. Also taking to the stage are rocker Rick Snowdon, who aims to impress with his unique voice, and Jordan Gray, who hopes to offer an inspiring example with her performance. Plus, 21-year-old Jolan from Cumbria, and Luton-based singer Mia Sylvester, both of whom have auditioned on The Voice in the past.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Mary Berry's Foolproof Cooking. **12.00** BBC News; Weather. **12.10** Football Focus. **12.50** Saturday Sportsday. **1.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.00** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. France v Ireland (Kick-off 2.25pm). **4.30** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Wales v Scotland (Kick-off 4.50pm).

6.55 BBC News.**7.05 Regional Programme.**

7.15 The Voice UK. Rocker Rick Snowdon and would-be inspiration Jordan Gray take to the stage, along with former Voice auditions Mia Sylvester and Jolan in the sixth round of 'blind auditions'.

8.30 The National Lottery: Win Your Wish List. Hannah and Joe from Eastbourne, East Sussex, seek to win items from their personal wish list. Plus, Wet Wet Wet join Gabby Roslin for the all-important Lotto and Thunderball draws.

9.20 Casualty. Valentine's Day arrives in Holby, and for Connie, the day brings a reunion with old flame Sam, who has returned from New York with Connie's estranged daughter Grace. The pair's arrival on the ED is no social call, though, as Sam's new girlfriend Emma has fallen critically ill, and requires urgent surgery. Ethan is furious at Cal for his deception, and as tensions rise to boiling point, the pair end up brawling in resus. Elsewhere, Big Mac becomes an overnight celebrity. Lofy struggles with the management element of his new job, and Max arranges a date with a woman who looks remarkably like Zoe. Medical drama, starring Amanda Mealing.

10.10 BBC News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, which included Sunderland v Manchester United and Chelsea v Newcastle United, National Lottery Update.

11.55 Film: Meet the Parents. (2000) A male nurse makes a disastrous bid to impress his girlfriend's father – a former CIA agent who does not suffer fools gladly. Comedy, starring Robert De Niro and Ben Stiller.

1.40 Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.45** BBC News.

BBC2

6.20 Film: Battle Cry. (1955) **8.45 Film: The Desperados.** (1969) **10.10** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **11.10** Natural World. (R) **12.00** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **12.45** Rick Stein's India. (R) **1.45** The Best Dishes Ever. (R) **2.15** Holiday of My Lifetime with Len Goodman. (R) **3.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.45** Flog It! (R) **4.30** Final Score. **5.30** Earth's Greatest Spectacles. (R)

6.30 Back in Time for the Weekend.

The Ashby-Hawkins family sample life in the 1960s and with more money to go around, there's more fun to be had. Dad Rob and son Seth take on football legend Trevor Brooking for a game of Subuteo in the dining room, and Daisy and mum Steph meet Sandie Shaw to discover how the decade's daring fashions reflected the growing freedoms and confidence enjoyed by the younger generation. (R)

7.30 Henry VII: Winter King. Documentary in which author Thomas Penn examines the reign of the first Tudor monarch – from his victory at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485 to his death in 1509. (R)

8.30 Dad's Army. A daring bid to rescue Walker and Godfrey from a stricken pumping station ends with Mainwaring and his whole platoon trapped and facing the prospect of drowning. (R)

9.00 The Real Marigold Hotel. The group enjoy the final week of their experiment in Jaipur and attend one of the highlights of the Hindu calendar, the Ganesh Chaturti festival. Last in the series. (R)

10.00 Live at the Apollo. Katherine Ryan compers an evening of stand-up at London's Hammersmith Apollo, performing and introducing routines by guests Henning Wehn and James Acaster. (R)

10.45 Insert Name Here. Paul Hollywood, Kate Williams, Joe Lycett and Sara Pascoe join Richard Osman and Josh Widdicombe to answer questions about famous people who share a name. Last in the series. (R)

11.15 Film: There Will Be Blood. (2007) A prospector's single-minded pursuit of wealth leads him into conflict with a priest over control of an oil-rich town. Historical drama, starring Daniel Day-Lewis and Paul Dano.

1.45 Film: Primeval. (2007) **3.10** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITY: Bottom Knockor Street. **6.15** Bottom Knockor Street. (R) **6.25** Dino Dan. (R) **6.50** Signed Stories. (R) **6.55** Sooty. (R) **7.05** Super 4. (R) **7.15** Looped. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Horrid Rinder. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. **8.30** Scrambled!: Jessie. **9.05** Scrambled!: The Tom & Jerry Show. (R) **9.25** Film: Columbus. It's All in the Game. (1993) **11.15** The Jeremy Kyle Show. **12.20** ITV News; Weather. **12.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. **1.30** Judge Rinder. (R) **2.30** Tipping Point. (R) **3.30** Doc Martin. (R) **4.30** The Martin Lewis Money Show. (R) **5.00** The Chase. (R)

6.00 Regional Programme; Weather.**6.15 ITV News; Weather.****6.15 New You've Been Framed!**

Harry Hill narrates more comical viewer-submitted videos, including an old lady cooed in silly string, and a boy's unfortunate encounter with a pelican.

7.00 Ninja Warrior UK. The grand final arrives, and Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara invite the 15 most successful competitors to compete for the title of Ninja Warrior UK. Last in the series.

8.00 Take Me Out. Scott, a mannequin sculptor from London, Leeds-based dentist Keshav, Newcastle electrician Cory and Adam, a labourer from Bedfordshire enter the "love lift" in the hope of impressing Paddy McGuinness's 30 single women. However, to win a date they must first convince the female participants to keep their lights on as a sign of approval.

Plus, Paddy provides an update on last week's couples from the Isle of Fernandos.

9.20 The Jonathan Ross Show.

Sacha Baron Cohen joins Jonathan in the studio, in-character as Nobby, the star of his latest comedy outing Grimby. Plus, Stephen Fry, Amy Poehler and Shawn Mendes.

10.20 ITV News; Weather.

10.35 Film: Twins. (1988) Genetically designed twin brothers who were separated at birth set out on an adventure in search of their unknown mother. Comedy, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger and Danny DeVito.

12.30 Jackpot247. **3.00** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 The King of Queens. (R) **6.35** Frostgun Invitational. **7.30** Tenerife Blue Trail. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Everything Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** The Morning Line. **10.00** Frasier. (R) **10.30** Frasier. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.30** Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Newbury and Warwick. **4.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.25** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.00 Come Dine with Me. Businesswoman Tracy hosts the final dinner party in Weston-super-Mare. Her evening includes dance lessons, a black-tie dress code, and steak cooked to order. (R)

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 Great Canal Journeys. Timothy West and Prunella Scales embark on another waterway adventure, starting in the romantic city of Oxford, where they began their courtship many years ago. They follow the gentle contours of the Oxford Canal through the Cherwell Valley, where they meet novelist Philip Pullman and are joined by their son, fellow actor Samuel West. (R)

8.00 Penelope Keith's Hidden Villages. New series. The actress is in Devon and Cornwall as she explores more of the nation's smallest communities, visiting a former silver-mining village and a cliff-edge fishing village. Previously seen on More4.

9.00 Film: Escape Plan. (2013) Premiere. A security expert is framed for a crime he did not commit, and sent to an escape-proof prison of his own design. He hatches a plan to break out, but to succeed he will need the help of a long-term convict – who wants his own freedom in return for assistance. Thriller, with Sylvester Stallone and Arnold Schwarzenegger.

11.20 Film: Predator. (1987) Soldiers on a mission in a Central American jungle is stalked by an invisible alien hunter in search of human prey. Sci-fi thriller, with Arnold Schwarzenegger and Carl Weathers.

1.20 Hollyoaks. (R) **3.35** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. (R) **4.30** Deal or No Deal. (R) **5.20** 1001 Things You Should Know. (R) **5.50** How I Met Your Mother. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **8.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **9.30** The Saturday Show. **11.30** Funniest Fails, Falls & Flops. (R) **12.00** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.00** Now That's Funny! (R) **2.00** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) **3.00** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) **4.00** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) **5.00** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R)

6.00 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. The documentary focuses on two disputes that developed from complaints about noise-making. (R)

6.55 5 News Weekend.

7.00 World War II in Colour. A look at how Nazi U-boats' efforts to sever transatlantic supply lines and the Allied firebombing of German cities affected the course of the conflict as efforts were made to develop new weapons and strategies to bring a rapid end to hostilities. (R)

8.00 Nazi Quest for the Holy Grail. Documentary examining the story of the Nazis' mission to rediscover the lost Aryan race and retrieve their forgotten secrets – including the Holy Grail. (R)

9.00 The Championship: Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's matches in the Championship, including Queens Park Rangers v Fulham and Reading v Burnley.

10.00 Goal Rush: Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present a round-up of all the goals and talking points from League One and League Two, including Coventry City v Bury and York City v Notts County.

10.30 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. The boyfriend of a missing woman implicates her ex-con neighbour – who Stabler helped put in prison 19 years earlier. Guest starring Stephen Rea. (R)

11.25 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. Benson and Stabler are called on to investigate when a man contacts the police after discovering a dead woman in his bed. Crime drama, starring Christopher Meloni. (R)

12.15 SuperCasino. **3.10** The Great British Benefits Handout. (R) **4.00** Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun. (R) **4.50** Divine Designs. (R) **5.20** HouseBusters. (R) **5.45** Angels of Jarm. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Pop's Greatest Dance Crazes **7.20** Don't Tell the Bride **8.20** Top Gear **9.20** Film: Meet the Fockers (2004) **11.10** Family Guy **1.00** Him & Her: The Wedding **3.30** The Revolution Will Be Televised **4.00** Close

BBC Four
7.00 How Earth Made Us **8.00** Nelson's Caribbean Hell-Hole: An Eighteenth Century Navy Graveyard Uncovered **9.00** Trapped **10.40** Motown at the BBC **11.40** Northern Soul: Living for the Weekend **12.40** Songs Motown **1.40** Top of the Pops: 1981 **3.00** Britain's Most Dangerous Songs: Listen to the Banned **4.00** Close

ITV2

11.00 Ninja Warrior UK **12.00** Scorpion **1.05** You've Been Framed! Gold **1.35** You've Been Framed! Gold The Next Generation **2.55** Beethoven (1992) **4.25** Catchphrase **5.10** Film: Despicable Me (2010) **7.05** Film: The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (2008) **9.20** Take Me Out – The Gossip **10.20** Secret Dates **11.20** Ibiza Weekender **12.20** The Keith Lemon Sketch Show **12.50** Beowulf: Return to the Shieldlands **1.50** Reality Bites **2.30** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.55** Teleshopping **5.55** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

11.40 A Touch of Frost **1.50** The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes **4.00** Film: Columbus: Last Salute to the Commodore (1976) **6.05** Midsomer Murders **10.00** Lewis **12.00** Blue Murder **1.35** Man About the House **2.05** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4

12.30 Live Snooker Shootout **5.20** Storage Wars **6.15** Football's Greatest: Zinedine Zidane **6.30** Live Snooker Shootout **11.20** Film: The Long Kiss Goodnight (1996) **1.45** River Monsters **2.40** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

11.30 Brooklyn Nine-Nine **12.30** The Goldbergs **1.30** The Jump **3.05** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: Magic Mike (2012) **11.15** Gogglebox **1.25** Virtually Famous **2.10** The It Crowd **3.00** How I Met Your Mother **3.45** Rules of Engagement **4.30** Revenge

Film4

11.00 Bugsy Malone (1976) **1.00** Step Up 2: The Streets (2008) **3.05** Dr Seuss' The Lorax (2012) **5.00** The Death and Life of Charlie St Cloud (2010) **6.55** Film of Dreams (1989) **9.00** Ted (2012) **11.05** Evil Dead (2013) **1.00** Intruders (2011) **3.10** Close

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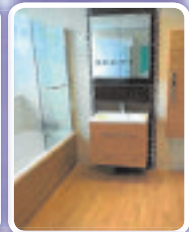
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CHOICE



Dylan Hartley

Live Six Nations Rugby Union **ITV, 1pm**
Italy v England (Kick-off 2.00pm). Coverage of the match from Stadio Olimpico in Rome, where the second round of fixtures is brought to a conclusion. England have never lost against the Italians, and when they last travelled to the Eternal City for a Six Nations encounter they recorded an emphatic 52-11 victory, scoring seven tries in the process. The Azzurri will certainly look to improve on that performance, and on their showing in last year's tournament as a whole, when they managed one victory over Scotland but were soundly beaten by the rest of the opposition, which included home losses to Ireland, France and Wales.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.35** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News. Weather. **1.15** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **2.15** The Truth About Fat. (R) **3.15** The Truth About the Country. (R) **4.15** Songs of Praise. **4.50** Pointless Celebrities. (R) **5.35** Nature's Miracle Orphans. **6.35** BBC News. **6.50** Regional Programme. **7.00** Countryfile. Matt Baker and Ellie Harrison explore the Norfolk Broads, meeting student gamekeepers, learning how to prepare venison, and discovering how a naturalist has helped cranes to return to the area after 400 years. Adam Henson visits a farm where egg production is being carried out on a massive scale, including Weather for the Week Ahead. **8.00** Call the Midwife. Dr Turner and Shelagh are at the forefront of the advances in medical technology, and begin a campaign to ensure better respiratory health for their patients. However, Timothy fears their own lifestyle is not good for them and tries to encourage his parents to give up smoking. Violet injures her back and is forced to leave the shop in Fred's hands, a decision that strengthens their relationship but which proves to have other, unforeseen consequences. **9.00** British Academy Film Awards. Coverage of the awards ceremony, hosted by Stephen Fry from the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden. Films in the running for awards this year are The Revenant, Ex Machina, Spotlight, The Danish Girl, Amy, The Big Short, Bridge of Spies, Carol, 45 Years, Amy, Brooklyn and The Lobster, while actors nominated for awards include Michael Fassbender, Eddie Redmayne, Cate Blanchett, Maggie Smith, Idris Elba, Christian Bale, Kate Winslet and Julie Walters. **11.00** BBC News. **11.20** Regional Programme. **11.30** Film: While You Were Sleeping. (1995) A train-station attendant poses as the fiancée of a comatose man, but ends up in a quandary when she falls for his brother. Romantic comedy, with Sandra Bullock and Bill Pullman. **1.05** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.10** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 The A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) **6.45** The A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) **7.30** The Secret History of the British Garden. (R) **8.30** Countryfile. (R) **9.30** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.00** James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) **11.45** The Best Dishes Ever. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Coast. (R) **1.30** Film: 84 Charing Cross Road. (1987) Romantic drama, starring Anne Bancroft and Anthony Hopkins. **3.00** Film: The Importance of Being Earnest. (2002) Oscar Wilde comedy, starring Rupert Everett and Colin Firth. **4.30** Cats v Dogs: Which Is Best? (R) **5.30** Flog It! (R) **6.15** Ski Sunday. Action from the women's downhill race at the World Cup event in Crans Montana, Switzerland, where American Lindsey Vonn will be the focus of much attention. **7.00** Six Nations Highlights. John Inverdale is joined by Lewis Moody and Jonathan Davies to present action from the second round of the 2016 championship, featuring France v Ireland at Stade de France, Wales v Scotland at Principality Stadium, and Italy v England at Stadio Olimpico. **8.00** Greece with Simon Reeve. Part two of two. Simon travels from the Peloponnese peninsula into the mountainous north of the country. He meets local people including a group of rebel monks and conservationists caring for an injured bear, and discovers how they are coping with the political crisis affecting Greece. **9.00** Chinese New Year: The Biggest Celebration on Earth. New series. Series exploring new year celebrations in China, through the personal stories of people involved in traditional celebrations, as well as those whose livelihoods are dependant on the holiday. **10.00** Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, which were Arsenal v Leicester City, Aston Villa v Liverpool, and Manchester City v Tottenham Hotspur. **11.10** Film: Tron: Legacy. (2010) A man searching for his father is sucked into a computer-generated world and must compete in gladiatorial combat. Sci-fi adventure, starring Jeff Bridges and Garrett Hedlund. **1.05** Film: Steel. (2002) 2.25 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **3.20** Holy City. (R) **4.20** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knockout Street. **6.15** Bottom Knockout Street. (R) **6.25** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. **6.45** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. **6.50** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Scrambled! Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled! Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Scrambled! Horrid Henry. (R) **8.10** Scrambled! Nerds & Monsters. **8.30** Scrambled! Bear Grylls Survival School. **9.05** Scrambled! The Tom & Jerry Show. (R) **9.25** Film: Columbo: Murder with Too Many Notes. (2000) **11.15** The Jeremy Kyle Show. **12.20** ITV News: Weather. **12.30** Off Their Rockers. (R) **1.00** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Italy v England (Kick-off 2.00pm). **4.30** Big Box Little Box. (R) **5.00** Ninja Warrior UK. (R) **6.00** Regional Programme: Weather. **6.15** ITV News: Weather. **6.35** Planet's Got Talent. Unusual acts including an Indian contestant who gets run over by a steamroller, a Chinese yo-yo master and a dog that sings Whitney Houston songs. Narrated by Warwick Davis. **7.05** Beowulf: Return to the Shieldlands. A fearsome clan of raiders launches a surprise attack on Herot, and Beowulf has to come up with a strategy to outwit his enemies and protect his own tribe. **8.00** Vera. DCI Stanhope and her team, including new recruit DC Hicham Cherradi, travel to a remote country house when the woman looking after it is killed. No sooner have they arrived, than a second body is discovered. Vera discovers the two victims met the night before their deaths, and goes in search of a connection between them. Forensics evidence reveals that one was definitely present when the other died. **10.00** ITV News: Weather. **10.15** Rookies. Documentary filmed over the course of a year following trainee officers in Lincolnshire Police. (R) **11.15** Premiership Rugby Union. Action from the 12th round of fixtures, including Northampton Saints v London Irish, Newcastle Falcons v Leicester Tigers, Sale Sharks v Exeter Chiefs and Saracens v Wasps. **12.15** Jackpot247. **3.00** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** The King of Queens. (R) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) **1.30** Location, Location, Location. (R) **2.35** Film: The Harry Hill Movie. (2013) Premiere. Comedy, starring Harry Hill. **4.20** The Simpsons. (R) **4.50** The Simpsons. (R) **5.20** Channel 4 News. **5.40** Film: Mr Popper's Penguins. (2011) Family comedy, starring Jim Carrey. **7.30** The Jump. Davina McCall presents the third stage of the winter sports challenge as the celebrity contestants face their fastest challenge so far in the speed ski event. The losing competitor from each race will then have to take part in the Jump to decide which of them will be eliminated from the contest. **9.00** Deutschland 83. Double bill. Moritz receives a shocking order, and realises the extent of his superiors' paranoia when a training exercise in the West is mistaken for a preemptive attack. He returns to the East in a bid to prevent a war and finds himself an outcast on both sides of the Iron Curtain, but risks his life to save Yvonne from the Stasi. Ingrid comes to Thomas's rescue, and Alex is forced to confront his own demons. In German. Last in the series. **10.45** Film: Predator 2. (1990) A tough cop investigating a series of gruesome murders discovers it is the work of an alien that kills for sport. Sci-fi thriller sequel, starring Danny Glover and Bill Paxton. **12.45** Embarrassing Bodies: Back to the Clinic. Christian Jessen, Pixie McKenna and Dawn Harper revisit patients from previous clinics to catch up with the state of their health. (R) **1.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.05** Undercover Boss USA. Catherine Monson, president and CEO of Fastsigns International, goes undercover to learn more about the manufacturing side of the company. (R) **4.55** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. In this bite-sized edition, Kirstie Allsopp competes in the Something New from Something Old competition at the Royal Wales Show, creating vintage paper jewellery. (R) **5.05** Beat My Build. Renovation challenge in which two builders are pitted against one another to overshadow their competitor's work and make the most profit from their project. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Bob the Builder. (R) **6.45** Ticky Toc. (R) **6.55** Zack and Quack. (R) **7.05** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.15** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.35** Little Princess. (R) **7.50** Pip Ahoy! (R) **8.00** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.25** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.45** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **9.00** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **9.15** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.25** LazyTown. (R) **9.50** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.25** The Championship: Football League Tonight. (R) **11.20** Goal Rush: Football League Tonight. (R) **11.45** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.45** Film: Mr Holland's Opus. (1995) Drama, starring Richard Dreyfuss. **3.20** Film: Housewife. (1992) Romantic comedy, starring Steve Martin and Goldie Hawn. **5.20** Film: What a Girl Wants. (2003) Comedy, starring Amanda Bynes. **7.25** 5 News Weekend. **7.30** Film: Jumper. (2008) A man discovers he has the ability to teleport, a talent he cleverly exploits to rob banks undetected while living a life of luxury all over the world. However, he soon learns he is not the only one with this power – and that a secret society of religious fanatics is determined to wipe out him and all of his kind. Fantasy thriller, with Hayden Christensen, Jamie Bell and Samuel L Jackson. Edited for language. **9.00** Film: Homefront. (2013) Premiere. A drug enforcement agent quits his job and relocates to a small town hoping to protect his daughter from the violent world he has to deal with. However, he is forced back into his old life when he finds his new home has a criminal underpinned by a narcotics kingpin. Crime thriller, starring Jason Statham, James Franco and Winona Ryder. Edited for language. **11.05** Film: Revolver. (2005) A gambler is helped by one enigmatic loan shark to exact revenge on his deranged former boss for landing him in jail. Guy Ritchie's crime drama, with Jason Statham and Ray Liotta. **1.15** SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. **3.10** Prison Brides. The phenomenon of weddings conducted inside prisons. (R) **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R) **4.50** Great Artists. (R) **5.20** Great Scientists. (R) **5.45** Angels of Jarm. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes III: Not in 3D 7.10 The Voice UK 8.30 EE British Academy Film Awards: Red Carpet 9.00 Film: Little Fockers (2010) 10.30 Russell Howard's Good News 11.05 Family Guy 11.50 American Dad! 12.10 Family Guy 12.30 Russell Howard's Good News 1.00 Professor Green: Hidden and Homeless 2.00 Siblings 3.00 Murder Games: The Life and Death of Breck Bednar 4.00 Close
BBC Four
7.00 Horizon: Swallowed by a Black Hole 8.00 The Sky at Night 8.30 Canals – The Making of a Nation 9.00 Storyville: Decadence & Downfall – The Shah of Iran's Ultimate Party 10.15 Film: Therese Desqueyroux (1912) 12.00 Natural World Special: Attenborough's Ark 1.00 Canals – The Making of a Nation 1.30 Rock 'n' Roll America 2.30 Sounds of the Eighties 3.00 Singer-Songwriters at the BBC 4.00 Close
ITV2
11.55 Take Me Out 1.05 Take Me Out – The Gossip 2.10 Film: The Perfect Man (2005) 4.15 Film: Legally Blonde (2001) 6.10 Catchphrase Celebrity Couples Special 7.15 Film: Along Came Polly (2004) 9.00 Ibiza Weekender 10.00 Love Fix 11.00 Film: Forgetting Sarah Marshall (2008) 1.15 Release the Hounds 2.05 Planet's Funniest Animals 2.30 Teleshopping
ITV3
12.25 The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes 1.35 The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes 3.55 Lewis 6.00 Midsomer Murders 8.00 Barging Round Britain with John Sergeant 9.00 Caroline Quentin: A Passage Through India 10.00 Mrs Biggs 11.00 Film: The Constant Gardener (2005) 1.30 Ghostboat 2.45 A Touch of Frost 4.30 On the Buses 5.20 Judge Judy 5.45 ITV3 Nightscreen
ITV4
11.30 Pawn Stars 1.30 Live Snooker Shootout 4.15 Storage Wars: Texas 5.10 The Classic Car Show 6.15 Goals of the 90s 8.30 Live Snooker Shootout 9.20 Film: Sudden Impact (1983) 11.45 Film: Mercury Rising (1998) 2.00 Ax Men 2.45 ITV4 Nightscreen 3.00 Teleshopping
E4
12.30 Couples Come Dine with Me 2.30 Film: Fury Vengeance (2010) 4.20 Rude (ish) Tube Shorts 4.30 The Big Bang Theory 9.00 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD 10.00 Tattoo Fixers 11.00 Rude Tube 12.05 The Inbetweeners 1.10 The T Crowd 2.10 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD 2.55 The Inbetweeners 3.45 Hollyoaks
Film4
11.00 Journey to the Center of the Earth (2008) 1.00 Pride and Prejudice (2005) 3.40 Anna Karenina (2012) 6.25 Twilight (2008) 9.00 Kick-Ass (2010) 11.15 Compliance (2012) 1.00 Wild Things (1998) 3.15 Close

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

Trespass, Channel 5, 11pm

A couple are held hostage in their own home by four masked criminals, who want the contents of their safe. The situation forces them to examine the secrets they are hiding from each other, while the criminals are also driven to reflect on the events that have set them on this course of action. Thriller, starring Nicolas Cage and Nicole Kidman. (2011)

TUESDAY

The Restless Breed, BBC2, 11am

A former secret service agent's son journeys to the frontier, hellbent on avenging his father's murder at the hands of outlaws. Western, with Scott Brady. (1957)

WEDNESDAY

Because I Said So, Channel 4, 1.05am

A meddling mother becomes increasingly worried that her youngest daughter, who has a string of short-lived relationships under her belt, is doomed to fail in matters of the heart. She places a carefully worded ad on the internet for a suitable man, but her interference results in a series of misunderstandings. Comedy drama, starring Diane Keaton. (2007)



Trespass, Monday, Channel 5, 11pm

THURSDAY

The Wind and the Lion, BBC2, 11.10am

An American woman and her son are seized by a Moroccan chieftain in the 1900s, sparking an international incident. While President Roosevelt works on a plan to ensure their safe return, the hostage begins to sympathise with her captor's cause as they get caught up in a conflict with German forces. Period adventure, with Sean Connery. (1975)

FRIDAY

Backdraft, ITV, 11.10pm

The two sons of a fireman who died in the line of duty follow him into the profession. However, a feud develops between them because the elder brother is convinced his sibling is not up to the job - until a mission to uncover the identity of a serial arsonist gives him the chance to prove his worth. Action drama, starring Kurt Russell, William Baldwin, Robert De Niro and Donald Sutherland. (1991)

Cuba gets caught up in controversial case

Throughout most of 1995, the US was hooked by the lengthy, televised trial of OJ Simpson, the American football legend who stood accused of murdering his wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman.

It was even dubbed the 'trial of the century', which may seem a little overblown until you consider how the case seemed to raise much bigger questions than whether or not Simpson was innocent, touching on race and celebrity culture.

And it's becoming a talking point all over again thanks to the new drama series The People v OJ Simpson: American Crime Story, which has been picking up rave reviews since it began airing in the US earlier this month.

Now the show is coming to the UK, although given the intense media coverage Simpson received back in the 1990s, some viewers may be wondering what there is left to say.

Luckily, the BBC has thought of that. Sue Deeks, Head of BBC Programme Acquisition, says: "I am so excited for BBC viewers to see this series. The

People v OJ Simpson is a fascinating and totally absorbing dramatisation of a case seared into the public consciousness. It is a case that you might think you know all about - but believe me, you don't know the half of it..."

In particular, the series looks at the legal teams who were battling to either convict or acquit Simpson, showing how the prosecution's over-confidence, some shrewd work by the defence team, and the Los Angeles Police Department's history with the city's African-American community all played a part in the eventual verdict.

If the fascinating true-life story wasn't enough to hook you in, the series is executive produced by Ryan Murphy, whose previous credits include Glee and American Horror Story, and boasts an incredible cast, including Cuba Gooding Jr as OJ Simpson, and John Travolta and David Schwimmer as defence attorneys Robert Shapiro and Robert 'father of Kim' Kardashian.

The cast are all aware of the responsibility involved in portraying real-life characters, but they have chosen to approach it in different ways.

Selma Blair, who plays Kardashian's wife Kris, met her real-life inspiration, and struck up a friendship - Kris even volunteered to dig out her 1990s clothes for the actress to wear on screen.

Chief prosecutor Marcia Clark didn't make actress Sarah Paulson a similar offer - instead she apologised that Paulson was going to have to adopt her hairstyle, which came in for a surprising amount of comment during the trial.

However, one person who didn't want to meet their real-life counterpart was Gooding Jr. He told the New York Post: "I didn't reach out to [Simpson's] kids. I didn't reach out to him. I didn't want a definitive opinion of his guilt or innocence."

But he has said that the series has brought it home to him that whatever you believe, the Goldmans and the Browns still suffered a devastating loss, and should not be forgotten.

The first episode offers another reminder, as the victims' bodies are discovered. The LAPD quickly link the killings to Simpson, although his fame leaves them unsure how to proceed.



Cuba Gooding Jr stars in The People v OJ Simpson: American Crime Story, Monday, BBC2, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

The X-Files

Channel 5, 9pm

Mulder and Scully arrive at Nugenics Technology to investigate the suicide of a scientist, only to find that the department of defence has put the facility on lockdown. They uncover evidence that extreme genetic experimentation has been going on for decades, breeding subjects who possess unexpected and dangerous powers - and Scully begins to wonder whether Nugenics had anything to do with her own pregnancy 15 years previously. Sci-fi drama, starring Gillian Anderson and David Duchovny.

Crashing

Channel 4, 10pm

Anthony and Lulu look for Kate and while their search takes a number of unexpected turns, the object of their quest drowns her sorrows with Fred - who receives some valuable advice from Jessica. Colin and Melody attempt to get back to normal, until he suffers an unfortunate incident, and Sam's life begins to unravel as he lashes out at those closest to him. Comedy, written by and starring Phoebe Waller-Bridge, with Jonathan Bailey, Julie Dray, Amit Shah, Damien Molony and Louise Ford. Last in the series.

TUESDAY

It's Not Rocket Science

ITV, 8pm

Over the years there have been plenty of fun science strands, from Don't Ask Me in the 1970s, to more recent offerings such as Brainiac. Now ITV are unveiling their latest take on the genre, and with the presence of Ben Miller, Rachel Riley and Romesh Ranganathan, you know you're in safe hands. In the first offering, Olympic hopeful Adam Gemili races against a Red Arrow, Rachel travels through a wall of fire at 450 degree centigrade, and Ben uses the power of Joey Essex's brain to drive a car.

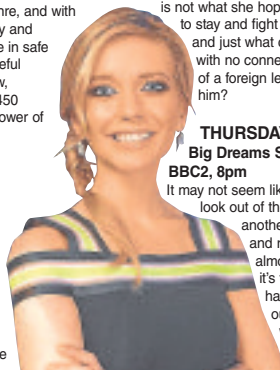
WEDNESDAY

One Child

BBC2, 9pm

It was announced last year that China was to end its one-child policy, but the decades-long law and its effects provide the starting point for this three-part drama. Mei (Harry Potter actress Katie Leung) was adopted from China as a baby, and has enjoyed a happy childhood in the UK with little knowledge of her roots. So, she's understandably stunned when a

Chinese journalist contacts her to say that her birth mother needs her help because the brother Mei never even knew existed is on Death Row for a crime he didn't commit. Keeping the full extent of the story from her adoptive parents, Mei flies out to her birthplace, but the first meeting with her mother is not what she hoped for. Will she decide to stay and fight for her sibling anyway, and just what can a young woman with no connections or knowledge of a foreign legal system do to free him?



It's Not Rocket Science, Tuesday, ITV, 8pm

THURSDAY

Big Dreams Small Spaces

BBC2, 8pm

It may not seem like it when you take a look out of the window to see yet another day of cold, wind and rain - but spring is almost upon us. Therefore it's time for many, if you haven't already, to get out in the garden. But what do you do if your land is a tad too small to create the ambitious

outdoor setting you have always dreamed of? Well never fear, Monty Don is returning with a new series of the show in which he helps more amateur horticulturists transform their small or average-sized plots into something extraordinary. In Salisbury, newly engaged couple Glenn and Zoe want a new garden to produce flowers for their wedding. But unfortunately, their small, sloping plot seems completely unusable. Meanwhile, in Barnet, Monty gets to work on an overgrown allotment that owner Nighat wants to use as a site for keeping bees.

FRIDAY

Shetland

BBC1, 9pm

Dedicating an entire six-episode series to one story is working a treat. Usually, cases whip by in the blink of an eye, catering for viewers with short attention spans in the process. But this run of Shetland is more old-school, with time given to absorb what is happening as well as the subtleties of the tale and its characters. We're now looking forward to the penultimate edition, during which Perez must find a way to deal with what has happened to Tosh if he is to successfully conclude the case surrounding the deaths of Robbie Morton and Michael Thompson - but that proves to be far from easy.

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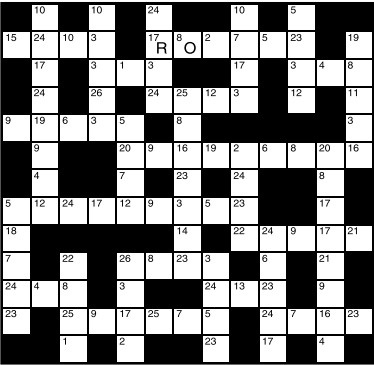
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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:
Y L R U V Z M P E W G H C
J O T K F A B S I N D Q X

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

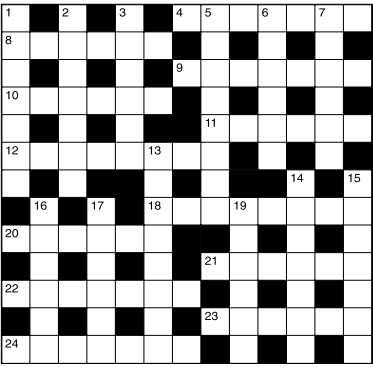
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- 4. Forsake an orchestra when playing (7)
- 8. Something to eat for a canine with a high temperature? (3,3)
- 9. Rib male - it's more soothing! (7)
- 10. Keep near it (6)
- 11. Presumably he won't let anything slip out (6)
- 12. Father takes hire charge in his fatherly role (8)
- 18. Roasting at the keyboard? (8)
- 20. Make headlong progress in one's job? (6)
- 21. Trivial insult (6)
- 22. Join devout company in plenty (7)
- 23. Ring the bells again - get rid of the law! (6)
- 24. Law they break becoming rich (7)

Down

- 1. He is in the wrong party to get proper treatment (7)
- 2. Monument about right height (7)
- 3. A proposal to get things moving? (6)
- 5. The difference between him and his workmates is striking (8)
- 6. A figure that makes one lose all feeling? (6)
- 7. The old boy got a look and did as he was told (6)
- 13. Comprehensive even if short and unrefined (8)
- 14. Circle to allow curl (7)
- 15. Imposing let-up in support (7)
- 16. Plea or word of honour (6)
- 17. Lie and contradiction (6)
- 19. Please become dead to the world (6)



Quick Clues:

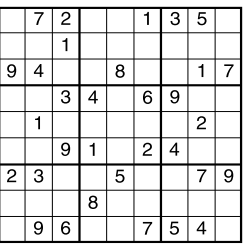
Across

- 4. At mid-point (7)
- 8. Inhuman (6)
- 9. Insult (7)
- 10. Demur (6)
- 11. Riot (6)
- 12. Clerical residence (8)
- 18. Gap (8)
- 20. Lower (6)
- 21. Caress (6)
- 22. Sundry (7)
- 23. Hand-gun (6)
- 24. Quill (7)

Down

- 1. Pardon (7)
- 2. Theme (7)
- 3. Zodiac sign (6)
- 5. Abounding (8)
- 6. Enthusiasm (6)
- 7. Yearly (6)
- 13. Estrange (8)
- 14. Greed (7)
- 15. Aged (7)
- 16. Strict (6)
- 17. Obvious (6)
- 19. Foreign (6)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

5	4	8	1	7	6	2	9	3
3	1	9	8	4	2	5	6	7
6	2	7	3	5	9	1	4	
4	5	3	2	8	1	6	7	9
9	7	6	5	3	4	1	2	8
2	8	1	7	6	9	4	3	5
8	3	4	6	2	7	9	5	1
1	9	2	4	5	3	7	8	6
7	6	5	9	1	8	3	4	2

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Shop windows; 9 Eve; 10 Town-crier; 11 Sisal; 13 Raiment; 14 Clasps; 16 Regime; 18 Network; 19 Steed; 20 Spaghetti; 21 Bow; 22 Set to rights. Down: 2 Hoe; 3 Petal; 4 Inward; 5 Decline; 6 White wine; 7 Sea-sickness; 8 Written down; 12 Smart pace; 15 Prophet; 17 Skater; 19 Sling; 21 Bit. QUICK - Across: 1 Happy medium; 9 Rod; 10 Newspaper; 11 Appal; 13 Reserve; 14 Normal; 16 Attach; 18 Private; 19 Widen; 20 Eliminate; 21 One; 22 Undertaking. Down: 2 Aid; 3 Penal; 4 Mowers; 5 Deposit; 6 Upper hand; 7 Great-nephew; 8 Freethinker; 12 Perdition; 15 Avarice; 17 Depart; 19 Wreck; 21 Own.

Thinking space

Quiz

- 1. What is a cicatrice?
- 2. In which year did Enid Blyton die?
- 3. What is the northernmost of the four main islands of Japan?
- 4. What was Ho Chi-Minh city known as prior to 1976?
- 5. What nationality was the composer Georges Auric?
- 6. What sort of bridge is the Forth rail bridge?
- 7. What was the soldier Rodrigo Diaz de Vivar more commonly known as?
- 8. How many lbs in a cwt?
- 9. In which year did Edward VIII die?
- 10. Approximately how many million Model T Ford cars were manufactured?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 India; 2 Francois Truffaut; 3 A fish; 4 German; 5 Ernest Rutherford; 6 Port-au-Prince; 7 Nebuchadnezzar; 8 17th; 9 Mg; 10 1980. Niner: DEPARTING

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

957183 gives an entertainer,
123548 gives a clergyman,
4356788 gives a novice.



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On the move – travelling around by cable car



The Sir Francis Drake is an opulent 1920s building



A must visit – cycle across the iconic Golden Gate Bridge



Streets are packed with different shops

Golden! Foodies will definitely leave their heart in San Francisco

IN the words of the great Tony Bennett, 'I left my heart in San Francisco'.

A flying visit will leave you breathless, from the sights, the tastes and from slogging up and down those famous hills.

Thank heavens for the equally famous trolley buses, which combine charm with practicality when getting around a city that is very well served for public transport.

There is just so much to see, from the Golden Gate Bridge and its park to Fisherman's Wharf, the shopping delights of Union Square, Haight Ashbury (home of the hippies) and Alcatraz, the famous island prison in San Francisco Bay.

And getting there from the West Midlands is a breeze, flying from Birmingham to New York's Newark Airport and then on

Simon Penfold reports

to San Francisco itself with United Airlines. It takes about a day, and your body clock will be all over the place, but the flights are punctual and very comfortable indeed.

Travelling business class, with good food and seats that turn into beds, takes any pain out of the process.

Shopping

Book into a hotel and head off to check out the late night shopping in nearby Union Square – Bloomingdales, Macy's, Neiman Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue – and a few local beers at Sam's Cable Car Lounge.

Quality food is a signature of San Francisco. This city has more restaurants per head of population than anywhere else in the US of A. It must be possible to find a bad meal in San Francisco, but I didn't.

And then there is the beer. America has discovered the joys of really good craft ale.

The food and drink is just part of what sets San Francisco apart from just about anywhere else in the United States. There's an individuality about the place.

Our hotel captured that individuality. The Sir Francis Drake is an opulent 1920s building just up Powell Street from Union Square. It has style and character as well as all mod cons, and its name is a reminder that the first Westerner to discover this place was the famous Elizabethan sailor. Presumably because of this links the hotel's doormen are dressed in beefeater outfits.

There is so much to see and do in this city that a visit to the websites run by Visit California and San Francisco Travel are a must. One of the most useful things you can do is sort out a CityPASS ticket booklet, which gives a week's unlimited use of cable cars

and the local Muni transport system, access to attractions such as the Aquarium of the Bay and even a one-hour cruise of the Bay.

For any movie goer, of course, San Francisco is the city where Steve McQueen raced around the streets in Bullitt. And there's every film ever made in the city.

Aside from the movies, there are hotels, galleries and places to go and stand and stare. One place that cannot be missed is Alcatraz. Boat tours run out to the island several times a day. One of the world's most legendary prisons, it is a gloomy and oppressive but in remarkably good condition considering the last prisoner left in 1963. On a brighter note you can hire a cycle and ride across the Golden Gate Bridge. The views are stunning and, in any visit to San Francisco, a visit to the bridge is a must.

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Spacious bungalow set in a quiet cul-de-sac



DELIGHTFULLY situated in a quiet cul-de-sac, this spacious and well maintained three-bedroom detached bungalow in Greaves Close, Walsall is deceptively spacious.

It is for sale through Edwards Moore at £349,950.

With gas fired central heating and double glazing the well planned property includes an enclosed porch, a reception hall, an impressive through lounge/dining room, a breakfast kitchen, a large utility room, a guest WC, inner lobby, bedroom one with an en-suite shower room, bedroom two, bedroom three, a family bathroom, a garage, a fore garden with ample off street parking and a delightful rear garden.

Within a short distance of all local amenities including Walsall Town Centre. Call 01922 615222 or visit www.edwardsmoore.co.uk



Superb three-beds end of terrace home

THIS superb end of terrace property in Rochester Croft, Reedswood, Walsall is for sale through Goodchilds at £140,000.

Accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hallway with laminate flooring and stairs off, a lounge, a kitchen/diner with modern cream coloured units and contrasting working surfaces and splash-back tiling, an integrated oven and a four-ring hob with an extractor fan, tiled flooring, space for a table and chairs, understairs storage cupboard and patio doors to the conservatory with laminate flooring, three bedrooms and a bathroom with a modern white suite tiled walls and a bath and shower. For further information contact Goodchilds on 0844 8009404 or visit www.goodchilds-uk.com



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Property with character is deceptively spacious



DECEPTIVELY spacious, this three-bedroom three/four-bedroom detached property in Somerford Place, Willenhall is a character home with many original features.

It is for sale through L&S Prestige Estates at £189,995.

It has an entrance hall, two generous reception rooms, an impressive living kitchen with a feature multi-fuel stove, wood-effect units and complementary working surfaces, a ground floor shower room and cellar, a spacious first floor landing, three generous double bedrooms, a box room/study and a bathroom, gas central heating, double glazing, a walled garden and off road parking.

For further information telephone L&S Prestige Estates on 01902 606595 or visit the website at www.prestige-estatesuk.com



Off-road parking and countryside views

A WELL-PRESENTED two/three-bedroom detached dormer bungalow in Vernon Way, Walsall comes with ample off road parking. Having lovely countryside views from the property, it is for sale through Goodchilds at £180,000.

Decorated throughout in neutral shades and with double glazing and gas central heating it has one or two reception rooms (including a well-proportioned lounge and a smart dining room with attractive ceramic floor tiling and a bay window), an appealing fully fitted kitchen, two/three bedrooms (one with appealing fitted wardrobes and over-bed storage), an en-suite shower room to master bedroom, and a further ground floor bathroom. For further information contact Goodchilds on 01922 711444 or visit www.goodchilds-uk.com



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Bloxwich Road Walsall



Offers around £105,000

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Little Station Street Walsall Town Centre



Offers around £74,950

A ground floor two bedroom modern apartment having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, electric central heating and no upward chain. The property further comprises, reception hall, open plan lounge/kitchen, bathroom and two bedrooms. Awaiting energy rating.

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Arundel Street Walsall



Offers around £149,995

Improved and upgraded four bedroom detached family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. This spacious property further comprises reception hall, lounge dining room, extended fitted kitchen, ground floor family bathroom, three bedrooms, first floor family bathroom, Attic room (bedroom four), front and rear gardens. Energy Rating D

Oxford Place Merton Way



Offers around £78,500

●●●IDEAL FOR LANDLORD AS CURRENTLY LET OUT FOR £475PCM●●● A superb two bedroom first floor modern apartment having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. This lovely apartment further comprises, reception hall, lounge, fitted modern kitchen with integrated appliances, two bedrooms (master with en suite shower room), garage, family bathroom with shower from taps and garage. Energy rating C.

Roebuck Road Walsall



Offers around £99,995

A three bedroom middle terrace family home in a popular location. This good size property comprises, reception hall, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, utility room, guest W.C, three bedrooms and family shower room. The property also benefits from no upward chain, gas central heating, part double glazing, front and rear gardens and off road parking. Energy rating D.

Lord Street Walsall



Offers around £135,000

An extended and much improved 5 bedroom middle terrace family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. The lovely family home further comprises, reception hall, lounge, dining room, extended kitchen/utility room, five bedrooms (master with ensuite) family bathroom and rear garden. Awaiting energy rating.

The Hayes Willenhall



Offers around £145,000

A two bedroom semi-detached bungalow having the benefit of no upward chain, UPVC double glazing and gas central heating. The property further comprises, reception hall, lounge, refitted kitchen, garage, two bedrooms, family bathroom, good sized attractive rear garden and off road parking to the front. Energy rating D.

Corn Mill Close Walsall



Offers around £47,500

●●50% Shared property, ●● A well presented 2 bedroom semi detached property having the benefit of double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. This lovely property further comprises, reception hall, lounge, refitted kitchen/diner, two double bedrooms, refitted family bathroom, front and rear gardens and off road parking. Energy rating D.

Caldmore Road Walsall



Offers around £69,995

A well presented two bedroom first floor modern apartment having the benefit of UPVC double glazing and gas central heating. This lovely property further comprises, reception hall, fitted kitchen, spacious lounge/diner, family bathroom with electric shower, two bedrooms, communal garden, intercom and allocated parking. Energy Rating B.

Market Square Wolverhampton



Offers around £65,000

●●Suit landlord or first time buyer (Previously let out for £450pcm)●● A well presented one bedroom modern City Centre apartment located on the fourth floor and being in the heart of Wolverhampton City Centre with the benefit of no upward chain, security intercom and lift to the first floor, double glazing and electric central heating. The property further comprises, lounge, double bedroom, luxury bathroom with shower, fitted kitchen and secure allocated parking. EPC rating of C.

Deans Place Walsall



Offers around £110,000

A well presented 3 bedroom semi-detached family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. The property comprises, reception hall, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, utility room, 3 good sized bedrooms, family bathroom, rear gardens and block paved driveway. Viewing essential. Energy rating E.



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- Traditional Bay Fronted Detached
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- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen
- Three Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Double Garage, Driveway
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- No Upward Chain



£200,000



WILLENHALL YALE ROAD

- Superb Detached On Very Popular Estate
- Hall With Guests Wc
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Breakfast Kitchen



- 5 Bedrooms, 3 En-suites
- Family Bathroom, Driveway
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Pleasant Gardens, No Upward Chain

£265,000



WILLENHALL ROLLESBY DRIVE

- Greatly Improved Modern Detached
- Popular Cul De Sac Location
- Hall, Lounge, Dining Room
- Conservatory, Kitchen



- Utility With Guests Wc
- Three Bedrooms, Shower Room
- Garage, Driveway, Gardens
- Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing

£184,950



BRIARSLEIGH LEYBURN CLOSE

- Superb Greatly Improved Modern Style Semi
- Highly Sought After Cul De Sac
- Hall, Lounge
- Impressive Newly Fitted Kitchen



- Conservatory, Utility, 3 Bedrooms
- Re-fitted Bathroom, Garage, Driveway
- Rear Gardens
- Gas Central Heating • Double Glazing

£149,950



WILLENHALL CADNAM CLOSE

- Modern Style Detached Property In Cul De Sac Location
- Hall, Lounge, Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen



- Three Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating
- Garage, Driveway
- Front And Rear Gardens

£124,950



THE WOODLANDS MYRTLE CLOSE

- Pleasantly Located On The Ever Popular Woodlands Estate A Spacious Modern Style Semi Detached
- Hall, Lounge, Dining Kitchen
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Re-fitted Shower Room
- Garage, Driveway, Gardens
- Gas Central Heating System
- Double Glazing



OFFERS OVER £135,000



COPPICE FARM ROSEWOOD DRIVE

- Beautifully Appointed End Terrace
- Hall, Lounge
- Superb Newly Fitted Dining Kitchen
- Two Good Size Bedroom



- Re-fitted Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Allocated Parking, Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating

OFFERS OVER £120,000



COPPICE FARM COTSWOLD GROVE

- Much Improved Mid Terrace Bungalow
- Popular Cul De Sac Location
- Over 55's Only
- Hall, Lounge, Conservatory



- Newly Fitted Kitchen
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- Majority Double Glazing, Shared Ownerships
- Communal Parking, No Upward Chain

£105,000



WILLENHALL YALE ROAD

- All Presented 4 Bedrooms Detached House
- Hall, Lounge, Dining Room • Breakfast Kitchen
- Bathroom, En-suite Shower Rm, Garage, Driveway
- Large Rear Gardens • Gas CH, Double Glazing



BENTLEY CHURCHILL ROAD

- Extended Semi Detached Property
- Hall, Lounge, Dining Room • Re-fitted Kitchen
- 3 Good Size Bedrooms, Bathroom • Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating • Driveway, Rear Gardens

£135,000



WILLENHALL YALE ROAD

- Superbly Appointed Extended Detached
- Three Reception Rooms, Spacious Kitchen
- Four Bedrooms • Two En-suites, Bathroom
- Garage, Driveway, Gas CH, Double Glazing, Gardens

£265,000 OFFERS OVER



SNEYD PARK BROCKERIDGE CLOSE

- Impressive 3 Bedrooms Semi Detached
- Lounge • Dining Room • Extended Fitted Kitchen
- Garage & Driveway • Gas CH • Double Glazing
- Rear Gardens • No Chain

£155,000



WILLENHALL ROEBUCK GLADE

- Spacious 3 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Hall, Lounge • Dining Kitchen
- Bathroom • Double Glazing • Gas CH
- Front And Rear Gardens, Garage, Driveway

£149,950



NEW INVENTION MENAI CLOSE

- Improved 3 Bedrooms Semi Detached
- Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating System
- Hall, Through Lounge / Dining Room
- Re-fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, Driveway, Gardens

£140,000 NEAR SANDRINGHAM AV



WILLENHALL WILLIAMS CLOSE

- A Spacious 3 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Hall, Kitchen • L Shaped Lounge With Dining Area
- Bathroom • Predominantly Double Glazing
- Gas CH, Driveway • Garage, Pleasant, Gardens

£130,000



WILLENHALL NEWLANDS CLOSE

- Modern Style 3 Bedroom Link Detached
- Hall, Lounge, Dining Kitchen • Bathroom
- Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating
- Garage, Driveway • Front And Rear Gardens

£129,950



WILLENHALL VAUGHAN ROAD

- Improved 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Property
- Hall, Lounge • Re-fitted Kitchen, Utility
- Re-fitted Bathroom • Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating • Large Gardens

£110,000



BENTLEY EDINBURGH AVENUE

- Superb Impressively Appointed And Beautifully Presented 2 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Hall, Lounge • Spacious Re-fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom • Double Glazing • Rear Gardens

£110,000



SUMMER HAYES BRIDGNORTH GROVE

- Ground Fir Two Bedroom Maisonette • Long Lease
- Lounge, Excellent Re-fitted Kitchen, Conservatory
- Shower Room • Pleasant Rear Gardens
- Double Glazing, Gas CH, Allocated Parking Space

£110,000



BENTLEY POPLAR AVENUE

- Extended 2 Bedroom Semi Detached Property
- Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom • Double Glazing • Gas Central Heating
- Front And Rear Gardens, Garage

£100,000



WILLENHALL FISHER STREET

- Larger Style Period Semi Detached
- Hall, Two Reception • Excellent Kitchen
- Shower Room • 2 Double Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Gas CH, Double Glazing • Rear Gardens

£90,000



SHORT HEATH POOLES LANE

- Period Two Bedroom Mid Terrace Property
- Two Reception Rooms • Extended Kitchen
- Bathroom • Double Glazing
- Gas CH • Pleasant Rear Gardens • No Chain

OFFERS OVER £90,000



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Moathouse Lane East
Wolverhampton
 

IDEAL FIRST TIME BUY OR BUY TO LET INVESTMENT
Deceptively Spacious Two Bedroom Family Home The Property Briefly Comprises Of: Porch, Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Large Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Front Driveway And Private Rear Garden.

OFFERS AROUND: £115,000

Warstones Road
Wolverhampton
 

2 Bedroom semi detached house with no upward chain in the popular location of Penn and close to local amenities, lounge, dining room, kitchen/diner, central heating and double glazing, family bathroom, driveway and garage, rear garden, call Paul Dubberley to view.

OFFERS AROUND: £119,950

Delamere Road
Willenhall
 

Three bedroom extended family home in a secluded cul-de-sac location. Porch, Veranda, Entrance Hallway, Lounge with dining area, breakfast kitchen, utility, three bedrooms and family bathroom. The property further benefits from pleasant rear garden, front garden with parking, and also further off road parking and a single garage. Viewings Highly Recommended. NO CHAIN! (PC-J)

OFFERS AROUND: £130,000

Essington Way
Wolverhampton
 

A three storey end townhouse property offering NO CHAIN! The property offers generous accommodation comprising of: entrance hallway, guest WC and ground floor bedroom. First floor is a large kitchen diner and living room, and to the second floor there are two further bedrooms, both with en suites. The property further benefits from a driveway to the fore giving off road parking, garage and enclosed garden to the rear.

OFFERS AROUND: £139,950

Clarkes Lane
Willenhall
 

Immaculately presented and Extended FULLY REFURBISHED three bedroom family home. Porch, Reception Hall, Lounge, open dining area leading to impressive EXTENDED KITCHEN with integrated appliances, Downstairs W.C, Three bedrooms and modern family bathroom.

OFFERS AROUND: £159,950

Worthy Down
Wolverhampton
 

Deceptively Spacious Detached Bungalow, Set In A Large Corner Plot. On The Popular 'Lyndale Estate'. Entrance Hallway, Large Dual Aspect Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms And Family Shower room. The Bungalow Further Benefits From Attached Single Garage, Driveway, Secluded Rear Garden And Mature Side Gardens. (PC-J)

OFFERS AROUND: £160,000

Moorcroft
Bilston
 

Semi Detached Bungalow In A Quiet Cul-De-Sac Location. Benefitting From Double Glazing And Gas Central Heating. The Property Comprises Of: Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Second Reception Room/Third Bedroom, Family Bathroom, Side Veranda, Part Converted Loft Room (Not Inspected). The Property Further Benefits From Pleasant Rear Garden And Driveway To Front.

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £125,000

Batmanshill Road
Bilston
 

Three Bedroom Semi Detached Family Home In Popular Bilston Area. Benefitting From Double Glazing And Gas Central Heating. The Property Comprises Of: Porch, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Through Kitchen Diner, Three Bedrooms And Family Bathroom. Front And Rear Gardens, Off Road Parking And NO CHAIN!

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £135,000

Bailey Road
Bilston
 

This Semi Detached home which has the benefit of a brand new Kitchen and Bathroom briefly comprises, Porch, Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, First floor landing, Three bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage and rear Garden.

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £120,000

Pirbright Close
Bilston
 

SOLD IN 3 DAYS!!!
A well presented & spacious end of terrace house which has been completed to a very good standard. The property which is local to amenities briefly comprises entrance hallway, lounge, kitchen/diner, cloakroom, three bedrooms, bathroom and rear garden.

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £125,000

Pickwick Place
Bilston
 

A well presented 2 bedroom first floor flat. The property, which benefits UPVC double glazing, is located in a quiet cul-de-sac location. The property property briefly comprises: reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom and enclosed rear garden. Communal parking is available with the dwelling.

OFFERS IN EXCESS OF: £70,000



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the estate agent

Newbolt Road
Bilston
 

Middle Terrace Residence in a popular location within walking distance to town centre. UPVC Double Glazed & Gas Central Heating Briefly Comprising: Reception Hall, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, Guest WC, Three Bedrooms, He tiled Bathroom, Front & Rear Gardens.

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £90,000

Constantine Way
Bilston
 

An immaculate Detached Residence on the popular Bridgefields Estate. Gas Central Heating, UPVC Double Glazing & No Upward Chain. Spacious Family accommodation Briefly Comprising: Reception Hall, Guest Cloakroom, Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, Conservatory, Three Bedrooms, Bathroom, Front & Rear Gardens, Driveway & Garage.

ASKING PRICE OF £169,995

Sidcup Close
Bilston
 

This Modern Detached property which has been recently updated to a very good standard is located on the Sedgemoor Park Estate. The property briefly comprises: Hall, Lounge, Dining room, Kitchen, Downstairs Cloakroom, Four Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage and Rear Garden.

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF: £225,000

Merstone Close
Bilston
 


A One bedroom ground floor flat with a potential rental yield of 8.5% briefly comprising entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, bedroom, bathroom. No upward chain.

OFFERS IN EXCESS OF: £60,000

Denville Close
Bilston
 

This immaculate detached house which is in a cul de sac is a short distance away from Bilston town centre. The property which is double glazed and gas central heated through out briefly comprises: lounge, garage conversion, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, driveway and rear garden.

OFFERS IN THE REGION OF £160,000



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First time buy or a good investment opportunity



A GREAT first time buy or buy-to-let investment, this two-bedroomed mid-terraced property in Victoria Street, Willenhall comes with a small walled front garden and rear courtyard and garden area.

It is for sale through L&S Prestige Estates at £84,995.

It has two reception rooms and a fitted kitchen to the first floor, two double bedrooms and a family shower room to the first floor.

The property also benefits from gas central heating and double glazing throughout. The home is close to a wide range of good local amenities, very popular local schools including Fibblesley park and good transport links. For further information contact L&S Prestige Estates on 01902 606595 or visit www.prestige-estatesuk.com



High level luxury in the heart of the city

THIS ninth floor two-double-bedroomed apartment in Century Plaza, Holliday Street close to The Mailbox, is also close to New Street Station in Birmingham.

With a balcony facing an inner courtyard and with views towards The Cube, it is for sale through CP Bigwood at £262,500.

It has a video telecom entry system, an impressive communal lobby with seating area, water feature and access to a mail room and lifts, an entrance hall, open plan living room/kitchen with French doors to the balcony, electric hob and oven, extractor, fridge freezer, slim line dishwasher and washing machine, two bedrooms, an ensuite and a bathroom, parking space, residents' gym and concierge service. Contact CPBigwood on 0121 2374860 or visit www.cpbigwood.com



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155 Lots

To include properties on behalf of:



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ENTRIES NOW INVITED FOR OUR NEXT AUCTION

at Aston Villa Football Ground



20 Hereford Street, Walsall
2 Bedroom End Terraced Property
Guide: £19,000-£24,000



14 Oakland Road, Walsall
3 Bedroom End Terraced House
Guide: £44,000-£49,000



135 Willenhall Street, Darlaston
3 Bedroom Mid Terraced Property
Guide: £44,000-£54,000



The Grange, Huddlesford, Lichfield
3 Bedroom Semi Detached Barn Conversion
with Approx. Site Area of 1.3 Acres
Guide: £275,000 plus



Flat 4, 78 Persehouse Street, Walsall
One Bedroom Studio Investment
Current Gross Income: £4,500 pa
Guide: £24,000 plus



Land Sutton Road/Skip Lane, Walsall
Parcel of Freehold Land Extending
to Approx. 4.2 Acres
Guide: £50,000-£60,000



*Please note charges may apply in addition to the purchase price on some lots

**For a definition of Guide Price & Reserve price please refer to our catalogue or website

at Aston Villa Football Ground

155 LOTS to include:

Saturday 13th February 10:45am



47 Lewis Street, Bilston
2 Bedroom Mid Terraced House
Guide: £19,000 - £24,000

Saturday 13th February 03:15pm



9 Ashfield Road, Bilston
3 Bedroom Semi Detached House
Guide: £39,000 - £44,000

Saturday 20th February 01:45pm



9 Tanfield Road, Dudley
4 Bedroom Dormer Bungalow
Guide: £59,000 - £69,000

Saturday 13th February 04:00pm



30 Sycamore Road, Wednesbury
3 Bedroom Semi Detached House
Guide: £39,000 - £44,000

Saturday 20th February 10:45am



46 Newton Road, Great Barr
3 Bedroom Detached House
Guide: £89,000 - £99,000

Saturday 13th February 12:15pm



16 Windsor Road, Wolverhampton
3 Bedroom Semi Detached House
Guide: £49,000 - £54,000

Saturday 13th February 10:00am



263 Deans Road, Wolverhampton
3 Bedroom Semi Detached House
Guide: £39,000 - £44,000

Saturday 13th February 01:45pm



156 Hilton Road, Lanesfield
3 Bedroom Semi Detached House
Guide: £29,000 - £34,000

Saturday 13th February 01:00pm



19 Veronica Av., Wolverhampton
3 Bedroom Semi Detached House
Guide: £24,000 - £29,000

Saturday 20th February 02:30pm



2 Yew Tree Hills, Dudley
3 Bedroom Detached House
Guide: £29,000 - £34,000

Saturday 20th February 11:45am



20 Hereford Street, Walsall
2 Bedroom End Terraced House
Guide: £19,000 - £24,000

Saturday 20th February 12:30pm



35 Wood Lane, Willenhall
4 Bedroom Link Detached House
Guide: £89,000 - £99,000

Saturday 20th February 10:00am



23 Harbeck Avenue, Great Barr
3 Bedroom Semi Detached House
Guide: £29,000 - £34,000

Saturday 13th February 02:30pm



31 Langley Avenue, Bilston
4 Bedroom Mid Terraced House
Guide: £29,000 - £34,000

Saturday 20th February 03:45pm



6 Ely Grove, Quinton
3 Bedroom Semi Detached House
Guide: £49,000 - £54,000

Saturday 13th February 11:30am



11 Hickman Road, Bilston
3 Bedroom End Terraced House
Guide: £29,000 - £34,000

FURTHER VIEWING APPOINTMENTS ARE AVAILABLE. FOR DETAILS CALL THE OFFICE ON 0121 233 5046.



*Please note charges may apply in addition to the purchase price on some lots

**For a definition of Guide Price & Reserve price please refer to our catalogue or website



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Eden Valley, Walsall



CGI of Keinton exterior

Plot 58, 2 bedroom Keinton from £124,950

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* This is a guide price based on a gross yield with a £650 rental figure, calculated with reference to the average price movements and yields of previous Rightmove listings. Subject to terms and conditions. Please ask for further details. Lovell cannot advise you on a mortgage. YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE OR ANY DEBT SECURED ON IT. Information correct at time of going to print, 1st February 2016.

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Photograph of a typical Kier showhome. Elevations and finishes may vary. *Help to Buy is available upon request subject to terms and conditions. **Available on selected plots and subject to terms and conditions.

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93 ALL SAINTS ROAD,
WOLVERHAMPTON



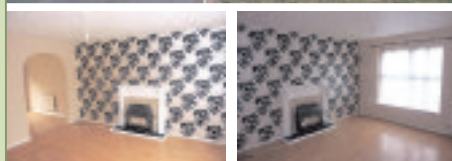
43 WINDSOR STREET,
WALSALL



45 WINDSOR STREET,
WALSALL



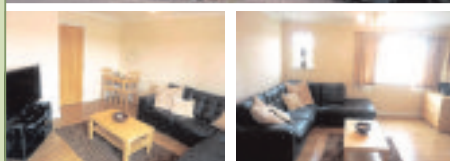
Walsall
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Dalby Road, Walsall

- Three Bedroom Detached
- Entrance Porch/Hall
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Kitchen/Utility
- Downstairs W.C.
- Master Bedroom with En-suite
- Family Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Garage & off Road Parking
- Sorry No DHSS, Pets, Smokers

Monthly Rental Of £650



Essington Road, Willenhall

- Immaculate Two Bedroom First Floor Apartment
- Lounge/Diner
- Fitted Kitchen
- Fitted Shower Room
- Master Bedroom with Wardrobes

Monthly Rental Of £525



Long Lane, Walsall

- Extended Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Overlooking Fields to Rear
- Front Driveway

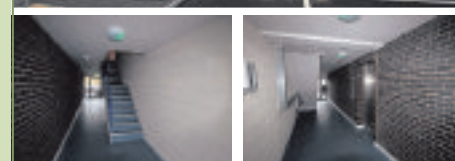
Monthly Rental Of £750



Neath Road, Walsall

- Three Bedroom Mid-Terraced House
- Entrance Hallway
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Side Entry

Monthly Rental Of £495



Broadway, Walsall

- One Bedroom Apartment
- New Build
- Communal Hallway with Lift
- Kitchen/Lounge
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Off Road Parking
- Good Transport Links
- Sorry No DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £495



Terret Close, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Top Floor Apartment
- Lounge with French Doors
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Ensuite
- Allocated Parking Space

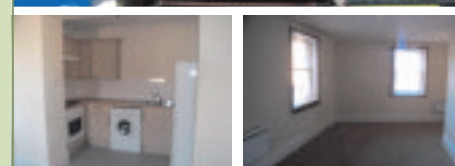
Monthly Rental Of £475



High Street, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Flat above Retail Premises
- Large Lounge
- Large Bathroom
- Fitted Kitchen
- Electric Heating
- DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £400



Bridge Street, Walsall

- Two Bedroom 2nd Floor Apartment
- Open Plan Kitchen
- Lounge
- Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom with Shower over Bath
- Town Centre Location
- Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers

Monthly Rental Of £415



Gallery Square, Walsall

- One Bedroom First Floor Apartment
- Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen
- Shower Room
- Town Centre Location
- Close to all Transport Links
- Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers

Monthly Rental Of £400



Bridge Street, Walsall

- WALSALL TOWN CENTRE
- Spacious One Bed Apartment
- Separate Kitchen
- Secure Off Road Parking
- Bathroom With Shower over Bath
- Close to all transport links & amenities

Monthly Rental Of £350

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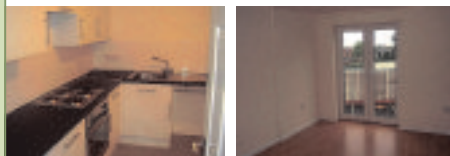
Brownhills
01543 226655
 High Street, Brownhills, Walsall, WS8 6ED



West Bromwich Road, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Terrace
- Through Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Under Stairs Storage
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Close to Primary Schooling
- Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers

Monthly Rental Of £475



High Street, Walsall

- Two Bedroom 2nd Floor Apartment
- Secure Communal Entrance
- Entrance Hallway
- Lounge with French Doors
- Bathroom with Shower
- Fitted Kitchen
- Electric Heating
- Allocated Parking
- DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £430



Riding Way, Willenhall

- Two Bedroom Dormer Bungalow
- Entrance Hallway
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- 3rd Reception / Potential Ground Floor Bedroom

Monthly Rental Of £575



Netley Road, Walsall

- Three Bedroom Mid Terrace
- Popular Mossley Estate
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Side Entry
- Family Bathroom / Separate WC

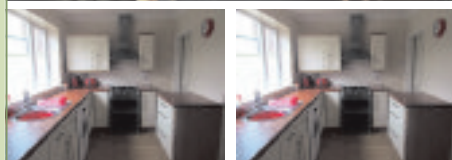
Monthly Rental Of £495



Foster Street, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Mid Terraced
- Two Reception Rooms
- Galley Kitchen
- Shower Room
- Rear Garden
- DHSS Considered
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating

Monthly Rental Of £425



Poplar Road, Brownhills

- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Conservatory
- Kitchen
- Utility Room
- Sorry No DHSS Or Pets

£595 PCM



Lingmore, Aldridge

- Ground Floor 2 Bedroom Apartment
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Shower Over Bath
- Allocated Parking
- Sorry No DHSS Or Pets

£495 PCM



Walker Road, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Apartments
- Large Open Plan Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Off Road Parking
- DHSS Accepted, No Pets or Smokers

Monthly Rental Of £450



Leamore Lane, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Terraced House
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Rear Garden
- DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £400



Ingram Road, Bloxwich

- One Bedroom Flat
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Electric Heating
- Double Glazing
- Bathroom with shower
- DHSS Accepted
- Close to Bloxwich High Street

£375 PCM



Stewart Road, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Semi Detached
- Off Road Parking
- Kitchen with Utility
- Lounge
- Large rear Garden
- Family Bathroom
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing

Monthly Rental Of £525



Hillside Close, Walsall

- Two Bedroom 1st Floor Maisonette
- Own Stairs & Landing
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Pleasant Rear Garden

Monthly Rental Of £450



Harrison Street, Bloxwich

- One Bedroom First Floor Flat
- Private Entrance
- Open Plan Kitchen / Lounge
- Bathroom with Shower
- D. Glazing & Electric Heating
- DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £350



Harrison Street, Walsall

- One Bedroom First Floor Flat
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Electric Heating and Double Glazing
- DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £325

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Broadway, Walsall

- Three Bedroom Apartment
- New Build
- Communal Hallway with Lift
- Lounge with Balcony
- Fitted Kitchen Area
- Family Bathroom
- Master Bedroom With En-Suite
- Gas Central Heating

LET

Monthly Rental Of £695

Sneyd Hall Road, Walsall

- Three Bedroom Detached
- Entrance Hall
- Front Reception Room
- Rear Extended Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Downstairs W.C.
- Shower/Wet Room
- Front & Rear Gardens

LET

Monthly Rental Of £650

Broadway, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- New Build
- Communal Hallway with Lift
- Kitchen/Lounge
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing

LET

Monthly Rental Of £595

Seeds Lane, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Semi Detached
- Immaculately Presented
- Lounge
- Large Kitchen/Diner
- Family Bathroom
- Block Paved Driveway
- Off Road Parking
- Large Rear Garden

LET

Monthly Rental Of £575

St. Matthews Close, Walsall

- Three Bedroom Terraced House
- Dining Room
- Lounge with French Doors
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Master Bedroom with Fitted Wardrobes
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Popular Petsall Area

LET

Monthly Rental Of £575

Cobden Street, Walsall

- Four Bedroom Semi-Detached
- Entrance Hall
- Extended Lounge/Diner
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Off Road Parking

LET

Monthly Rental Of £550

Rushall, York Road

- Three Bedroom End Of Terrace
- Lounge, Kitchen/Diner
- Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom
- Off Road Parking, Rear Garden
- Available ASAP
- Sorry No DHSS

LET

Monthly Rental Of £550

West Street, Walsall

- Three Bedroom Semi Detached
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Off Road Parking
- DHSS Accepted
-
-

LET

Monthly Rental Of £550

Jane Lane Close, Walsall

- Three Bedroom Mid - Terraced
- Entrance Hallway
- Downstairs WC
- Lounge
- Kitchen/Diner
- Family Bathroom
- Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking

LET

Monthly Rental Of £525

Petsall,

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- Ground Floor
- Secure Intercom Access
- Communal Entrance
- Hallway
- Fitted Kitchen
- Lounge
- Bathroom

LET

Monthly Rental Of £500

Broad Lane, Wolverhampton

- Well Kept Traditional Terraced Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Entrance Reception
- Lounge with Log Burner
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom

LET

Monthly Rental Of £495

Thornbury Road, Walsall

- Well Kept Two Bedroom 1st Floor Apartment
- Entrance Hallway
- Open Plan Kitchen/Lounge
- Bathroom with Shower over Bath
- Allocated Parking Space
- Close to Town Centre
- Double Glazing
-
-

LET

Monthly Rental Of £475

Smiths Flour Mill, Walsall

- Two Bedroom 1st Floor Apartment
- Open Plan Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen with Appliances
- Bathroom
- Ensuite Shower Room
- Secure Parking
- Secure Gate Entrance
- Town Centre Location

LET

Monthly Rental Of £475

Signal Grove, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Terraced
- Close to Blaxwich Town
- Gallery Style Kitchen
- Open Plan Lounge/Diner
- Bathroom
- Cul-De-Sac Location
- Small Fore Garden
- Double Glazing

LET

Monthly Rental Of £450

Signal Grove, Walsall

- FRESHLY DECORATED
- NEW FLOORING THROUGHOUT
- Two Bedroom 2nd Floor Flat
- Lounge
- Separate Kitchen
- Bathroom with Shower over Bath

LET

Monthly Rental Of £450

Terret Close, Walsall

- One Bedroom 2nd Floor Apartment
- Open Plan Lounge / Kitchen
- Bathroom with Shower over Bath
- Hallway with Storage
- Allocated Parking
- Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers
-
-

LET

Monthly Rental Of £425

High Street, Wolverhampton

- Lounge
- Newly Fitted Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms
- Newly Fitted Bathroom
- Duplex
- DHSS Accepted
-
-

LET

Monthly Rental Of £425

Cresswell Crescent, Walsall

- Three Bedroom Duplex Flat
- Large Lounge
- Large Kitchen/Diner
- Family Bathroom
- Completely Refurbished
- DHSS Accepted
- Electric Heating Throughout
- Spacious

LET

Monthly Rental Of £425

Pargeter Street, Walsall

- Two Bedroom Terrace
- Entrance Hall
- Front Reception Room
- Rear Lounge
- Kitchen
- Downstairs Bathroom

LET

Monthly Rental Of £400

Broad Lane, Walsall

- First Floor One Bedroom Maisonette
- Private Entrance Hall
- Lounge with Gas Fire
- Kitchen
- Bathroom with Shower over Bath
- Shared Rear Garden
- Double Glazing
- DHSS Accepted

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Monthly Rental Of £325

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39

The Chronicle Thursday, February 11, 2016

WILLENHALL



£84,995

SLATER ST, WILLENHALL

Three Bed Town House, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Downstairs W.C., Sunroom, Family Bathroom, D/ Glazing, C/Heating, Off Road Parking. BTL Investment Let At £500 PCM.

WILLENHALL



£84,995

VICTORIA STREET, WILLENHALL

Well Presented Two Bed Mid Terrace Comprises Of Two Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen And A Family Shower Room, Gas Central Heating And Double Glazing Throughout. Ideal FTB Or BTL Investment.

NEW INVENTION



£85,000

SQUIRES GROVE, WILLENHALL

Two Bed Second Floor Apartment Having Entrance Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, En Suite, UPVC D/G & Electric Heating, Allocated Parking. Great BTL Or FTB.

LANE HEAD



£87,500

MILL LANE, WILLENHALL

Two Bed End Terrace Having Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/ Diner And Refitted Family Bathroom. The Property Also Benefits From G/C/H, UPVC D/G, Rear Garden And Parking. Ideal FTB Or BTL.

NEW INVENTION



£87,995

SQUIRES GROVE, W-HALL

Modern Two Bed First Floor Apartment Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge With Juliette Balcony, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Master Bedroom With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, D/ Glazed & E/Heating.

WILLENHALL



£92,000

ASTON ROAD, WILLENHALL

Three Bed Semi Comprises Of Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen, Ground Floor Bathroom, Side Extension, Gas Central Heating, Majority UPVC Double Glazing, Private Rear Garden And Driveway.

SHORT HEATH



£95,000

COLTHAM ROAD, WILLENHALL

Three Bed Town House Having Porch, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Extended Kitchen And Modern Shower Room. The Property Benefits From UPVC D/G, G/C/H And Garden.

NEW INVENTION



£96,000

SQUIRES GROVE, W-HALL

Show Home Condition, Two Bed Second Floor Apartment, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom And En-suite Shower Room, UPVC D/G And Electric Heated, Allocated Parking.

BENTLEY



OIEO £100,000

EDINBURGH AVE, WALSALL

Two Bed Semi. Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen & Ground Floor W.C., 1st Floor Bathroom, D/G & G/C/H, Off Road Parking To The Front & Enclosed Garden To The Rear.

SHORT HEATH



£105,000

PIMBURY ROAD, WILLENHALL

L & S Prestige Estates are now in receipt of an offer for the sum of £103,500 for 13 Pimbury Rd. Anyone wishing to place an offer on this property should contact L & S Prestige Estates before exchange of contracts.

WILLENHALL



£107,500

TEMPLE ROAD, WILLENHALL

Three Bed Semi. Comprises Of Porch, Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor W.C. & First Floor Shower Room. D/G, G/C/H, O/R/P To Fore. Enclosed Rear Garden. MUST VIEW!

DARLASTON



£109,995

PINFOLD STREET EXT, DARLASTON

Two Bed Semi Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/ Diner, Ground Floor W.C. And Modern Family Bathroom. The Property Also Benefits From UPVC D/G And G/C/H, Generous Rear Garden.

SHORT HEATH



£110,000

CLIFT CLOSE, WILLENHALL

Three Bed End Town House Having Porch, Entrance Hall, Kitchen/Diner, Lounge, Ground Floor W.C. And Family Bathroom. The Property Also Benefits From UPVC D/G, Majority G/C/H And Enclosed Rear Garden.

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THE CRESCENT, WILLENHALL

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QUEENS LEA



£119,995

SHEPHERDS DR, WILLENHALL

Three Bed Semi Detached Having Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Diner, Ground Floor W.C., Family Bathroom, UPVC Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Driveway & Private Rear Garden.

NEW INVENTION



OIEO £120,000

CONWAY CRES, WILLENHALL

Three Bed Semi Having Entrance Porch, Inner Hallway, Through Lounge/Diner, Play Room/Study, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor W.C., Family Bathroom, UPVC D/G, Gas C/H, Garage.

DARLASTON



£129,995

MEMORY LANE, DARLASTON

Well Presented Three Bed Semi Detached Property Comprises Of Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Dining Area, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, G/C/H And D/G.

ESSINGTON



£140,000

THE GABLES, W-HAMPTON

Two Bed Mid Town House Having Entrance Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor W.C., Family Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, UPVC Double Glazing And Garage. Sought After Location.

KINGFISHER ESTATE



£145,995

WELLAND GROVE, W-HALL

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FURZEBANK



£160,000

PINENEEDLE CROFT, W-HALL

Extended Three Bed Semi Detached Bungalow Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge/Dining Area, Fitted Kitchen And Shower Room, D/ Glazing, C/Heating, Driveway And Private Rear Garden.

ESSINGTON



£189,995

ASHMORE LODGE, W-TON

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WILLENHALL



£189,995

SOMERFORD PLACE, W-HALL

Spacious Three/ Four Bed Detached Property Having Entrance Hall, Two Reception Rooms, Generous Kitchen/ Diner, Shower Room, Cellar, Family Bathroom, UPVC D/G, G/C/H, Off Road Parking.

SHORT HEATH



£190,000

EZEKIEL LANE, WILLENHALL

Spacious Semi Detached Bungalow Comprises Of Hall, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, D/Room, Family Bathroom, Two Ground Floor And One First Floor Bedroom, D/G & G/C/H. Potential Building Plot STPP.

ESSINGTON



£370,000

SNEYD LANE, ESSINGTON

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Revolution in tyres

Bridgestone, rubber and tyre manufacturer, has launched Bridgestone DriveGuard, a new touring tyre which boasts additional benefits and safety for all motorists, including the ability to drive for 50 miles at 50mph following a puncture.

The product is designed to be fitted on to all passenger cars to remove concerns relating to tyre damage (including in sidewall and tread areas) and to deliver the highest standards of safety, wet performance, comfort and fuel efficiency; giving drivers additional peace of mind, safety and convenience.

Known for developing outstanding and breakthrough technologies, Bridgestone's new product, DriveGuard, is described as a 'game changer' due to the following:

- Capability to be fitted on to all passenger vehicles regardless of the manufacturer or model. Bridgestone DriveGuard is not restricted to a factory fitment on specific brands or car models and can be fitted on to most cars equipped with TPMS, which is mandatory in Europe on new cars since November 2014 and gives a potential car park of 32 million vehicles to be equipped with DriveGuard in 2016.

- Unique response to virtually all kinds of tyre damages (including sidewall and tread) which is unlike other tyre mobility solutions (e.g. sealant).

The new age DriveGuard technology uses a proprietary high-tech cooling fin design as well as supportive and tough reinforced sidewalls which allow drivers to maintain control and continue driving safely and comfortably for 50mph at up to 50 miles after a puncture, until it is safe to either repair or replace their tyre providing additional peace of mind related to tyre damage.

- "No compromise" philosophy. Bridgestone DriveGuard offers best in class performance with no compromise on wet or rolling resistance as supported by the excellent EU tyre Label4 values (A for Wet Performance and C for Rolling Resistance) and independent testing by TÜV Süd demonstrating that Bridgestone DriveGuard ranks highly in performance categories that are important to drivers, such as wet safety, placing DriveGuard at the frontline of road safety.

- Eco-conscious. DriveGuard not only eliminates the need to carry a spare tyre thereby putting less weight on the vehicle, it is also fully recyclable through the conventional recycling circuit; this is not the case with other tyre providing mobility solutions.

With 60 per cent of drivers experiencing punctures in the last four years, leading to feelings of helplessness and insecurity combined with lost time of up to three hours, now is definitely the time to rethink tyre safety.

Bridgestone DriveGuard underlines the company's commitment to road safety – in practically all conditions – as it can help prevent accidents resulting from punctures, sudden loss



Deploying the latest technology to bring mobility to the next level

of pressure or other types of tyre damage. Eduardo Minardi, executive chairman of Bridgestone EMEA said:

"Bridgestone DriveGuard empowers you to keep moving and avoid the immediate burden and unsafe circumstances of a flat tyre; drivers get to choose when and where they have their tyre replaced – within the indicated speed and distance limits."

"Our revolutionary new technology will considerably contribute to road

safety and give drivers additional peace of mind and convenience while on the road."

Bridgestone DriveGuard is at the forefront of innovation deploying latest technology to bring mobility to the next level, it offers:

Bridgestone DriveGuard will be available from April in Europe in 19 summer and 11 winter sizes – from 185/65 R15 up to 245/40 R18. Sizes will hit the market in two waves.

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Available on Solutions Personal Contract Plan. Based on a 42-month, 35,000-mile agreement. To achieve monthly payment advertised, £2840.40 deposit is required. 18s and over. Subject to availability. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. Excludes ŠKODA CITIGO S trims. Excess mileage charges of 4.4p per mile may apply. Offer available when ordered by 31 March 2016 from participating retailers. Offers are not available in conjunction with any other offer and may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Accurate at time of publication. Freepost ŠKODA Financial Services. We can introduce you to a limited number of lenders to assist with your purchase, who may pay us for introducing you to them. Model shown is ŠKODA CITIGO Black Edition 3 dr 1.0 MPI 60PS. Total OTR price is £9,990.

Official fuel consumption for the ŠKODA CITIGO range excluding S trim in mpg (litres/100km): Urban 50.4 (5.6) to 56.5 (5.0), Extra Urban 70.6 (4.0) to 78.5 (3.6), Combined 62.8 (4.5) to 68.9 (4.1). CO₂ emissions for the ŠKODA CITIGO range excluding S trim are 105 to 95g/km. Standard EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.

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*Exclusive Autosales FREE FUEL OFFER available on selected Skoda Approved vehicles during February 2016. Offer ends Monday 29th February 2016.

Official fuel consumption for the ŠKODA range in mpg (litres/100km): Urban 21.7 (13.0) - 72.4 (3.9), Extra Urban 40.4 (7.0) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined 30.4 (9.3) - 83.1 (3.4). CO₂ emissions for the ŠKODA range are 21.7 - 88g/km. Standard EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.



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C&D DECORATING City & Guilds / Wallpapering. Free quotes / OAP discount. 07873 286288.

M C I PAINTING & DECORATING Over 30 yrs experience. City & Guilds approved. Free Quotes. 07890 873 892 01902 885521

MFR DECORATORS. Internal/external. No job too small. Sensible prices. Free quotes. 07837 826372.

plans prepared

ADAM DESIGN. Building Plans. Drawn and submitted to council. Tel: 01902 620200 / 0784 1654037. Email: adamdesign@sky.com

BUILDING PLANS: Prepared/submitted. K. J. Bradley 01902 373248 07792 165677. www.plans4u.co.uk

carpentry & joinery

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- Kitchen and fitted wardrobe Specialists
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- Refurbishments

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07903 234 137

B & S JOINERY Six internal pre-primed doors fully fitted from £350. 07858 552625, 07850 867372.

carpet fitters

A CARPETS & VINYLs supplied or just fitted, quality samples brought to your home, no job too small, free quotes. Call Mark 01543 820598/07941 619694.

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RAPID SECURITY CCTV & alarms cameras, supplied and fitted, domestic and commercial, same day service. free call out. Call Robbi on 07960 173589/0800 633 5899.

double glazing

ATS DOUBLE GLAZING UPVC back doors from £299, front doors from £389 fitted. 01922 442720.

driveways & patios

BESPOKE LANDSCAPING

Garden Design Service, Block Paving-Slabbing & Patios, Tarmacadam, Walls-Gravel Gardens-Fencing-Sheds, Decking, Pergolas, Grass Cutting, Turf & Artificial Turf.

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07738 852488
82 Holyhead Rd, Wednesbury, WS10 7PA

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ALL ELECTRICAL work from a switch to a rewire. Insured, free quote 01902 575570 / 07958 627434.

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For the very best in plastering and rendering, full rooms inc materials from 110. Halls, stairs and landings from 200.
28 years experience.
Free quotes. All work guaranteed.
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PLUMBING WORK UNDERTAKEN No job too small or large. Call Will for a quote on: 07521 411108.

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A & M CHEAP REMOVALS
Local Careful Firm
Full or Part loads
Call Don:
07749 941319

A MAN WITH A VAN Single items, flat/house removals/clearances, local/nationwide. Call Steve 0121 422 2899 or 07815 043724.
A2B REMOVALS Cheap and reliable removal service. Insured. 07817 842980 or 01902 744829.

CALL DEAN NOW: For all your removal needs. 07429 453209/ 01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

DJ REMOVALS house or one item. Affordable rates, reliable. Call: 01902 652346 or 07912 980177.

FURNITURE REMOVALS We beat any quote, full or part loads, all areas. Call Keith on 07867 862227.
MAN WITH VAN All areas covered. Guaranteed to beat any quote. Call James on 07943 884145.

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ROOFING
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Roofing & Scaffolding
Rubber Roofing
All Roofing and Scaffolding Work carried out.
35 years experience
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MINI, MIDI & BUILDERS SKIPS WITH DOORS
Established 26 years
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Mini, Midi, 6 Yard with doors and Builders.
7 days - Prompt Service
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Bring your own waste cheaper than skips. General, Green, Wood waste any size vehicle. Phone for prices:
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GRINSELLS SKIP HIRE LTD. Mini, midi, maxi, large skips. Fast, friendly & reliable service. Monday to Saturday, 6 day service. Call: 0121 555 6060.

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MR B'S UPHOLSTERY
Re-Upholstering of Sofas, Dining Furniture, Caravans, Car Retrimers and more.
www.mrbssupholstery.co.uk
817438 899867

UPHOLSTERY SERVICES 3pcps/ springs/caravans/hubs/clubmanicues. 01902 689844 / 07817 842980.

4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

pets corner

C.A.A.B.S PET RESCUE
Registered Charity
PET RESCUE & BOARDING KENNELS FOR DOGS AND CATS
Open Mon to Sun
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Red Lane off Crab Lane
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GREYHOUNDS MAKE WONDERFUL PETS
All neutered, inoculated and microchipped.
Call 01922 41212 or
www.rgtwolverhampton.co.uk
RGT Wolverhampton
@RGTWolves

NOTICE TO READERS Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whist Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

TOY POODLES older male and female, immunized, genuine reason for sale. 07801 659239.

vets

Express & Star

THIS SPACE
COULD BE
PROMOTING
YOUR
BUSINESS

Every day our customers get a great response from Classified Advertising.

So could you by calling our friendly experienced Sales Advisors on 01902 319191.

5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

business directory

businesses for sale

THINKING OF SELLING Your Business? Call John at County Business Sales 01902 766724

6 Property

accommodation to let

No Deposit "Move in Today" Studios from £90pw
Rooms from £90pw
Includes Most Bills
D.S.S.
Welcome
Check Website - Live List
All Black Country
01902 21 31 21
@accommodation.com

NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

MOBILE HOME Ivy Cottage Mobile Home Park, Hopton. Bedroom, bathroom, Kitchen, lounge, DG, CH, £95pw. No DSS. 07799 392439 or 07900 110622.

ONE BED FLAT Willenhall Town Centre. £90pw. Deposit required. No texts. 07976 781003.

SELF CONTAINED furnished studio room, Cosely area, suit mature, no DSS. Call 07866 580164.

properties wanted

WE PAY 100% of purchase price EVERY TIME!



We buy any house

- FAMILY BUSINESS
- FAST FRIENDLY SERVICE
- COMPLETION TO SUIT YOU
- NO FEES/FREE SOLICITORS

WE ALSO BUY LAND

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I CAN BEAT ANY PRICE!

I pay 100% of purchase price
Call now for the best price on your house
Guaranteed offer* Free solicitors
Any condition No fees* *Terms apply

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FAST CASH FOR YOUR PROPERTY

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CASH PAID WITHIN DAYS!

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Friendly, local company here to help you 7 days a week. Est. 10 years.

Home Cash Buyer
Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish
Houses/Land Required
Ring Paul 24/7local on
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Sandwell Area Call 0121 696 4154
Walsall & Cannock Area Call 01922 432049
Wolverhampton Call 01902 489901
www.homecashbuyer.co.uk

TWO / THREE BEDROOM BUNGALOW WANTED
£250,000 to £300,000.
Must be in Cannock area.
Private cash Buyer.
07733 100001.

houses for sale



mobile homes

TINGDENE MACKWORTH 42ft x 20ft twin unit. Furnished holiday home, double glazed, centrally heated, private parking on beautiful park nr. Ludlow. Fantastic facilities, rent inc. £49,000. 01584 823 433

overseas property

NOTICE TO READERS Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

7 Jobs

building & construction

S. CLIFT BUILDERS are seeking Quantity Surveyor full or part time. Also experienced Project Managers Call 01922 713754.

drivers

SELF EMPLOYED DRIVERS required, single car transporter. Text details / leave message to 07496 008354.

employment wanted

VERY EXPERIENCED DRIVER. 7 1/2 tonne licence, plus GPC. Seeks any work, even casual. Telephone 01922 512935.

full time - general

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WOODWORKING TOOL AND CUTTER GRINDER
required for manufacture and service of profile cutters and routers etc.
Some CNC experience would be an advantage but training for the right applicant will be given.

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Walsall, WS8 7DG

8 Motoring

cars over £1500

SELLING YOUR CAR?

We have a package to suit every budget.
Packages start from as little as
£21.00 for 6 nights
Plus
6 nights free if you do not sell.
CALL
01902 317878

CITROEN C1 Manual, Red, 13 plate, less than 12,000 miles. FSH, air bag, PAS, excellent condition. £5,000 ono. 0785 2405236.

FORD FIESTA Zetec, 2012 reg., one owner, 27,000 miles, 5 door, alloys, immaculate condition. £3,900. 07438 887257.

KIA PICANTO 1.1, 5 speed, Sept 2011, 5 door, blue, under 8,000 miles, 21, year warranty. Offers around £4,500. 01543 671019.

MITSUBISHI ASX 3 1.6, Diesel, 5-dr, 61 reg, in grey, 54,000 miles. Brand new spare wheel. Quality car. £3,995. 07941 148932.

MITSUBISHI COLT 2008, 61,000 miles, blue, electric windows, A/C, MoT, alloys, CD, dual fuel, LPG. £2,950 ono. 07867 680197.

MITSUBISHI SHOGUN 2006, 1 lady owner, new 186,000 miles hence price. Silver metallic, MoT, towbar. Very good condition. £3,500 ono. 01902 686801.

cars under £1500

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

FORD FOCUS 1.6LX, hatch, 05 reg., 83,900 miles, reg. alloys, p.a.s, cd, air con, cd, MoT January 2017. £995. 07984 715346.

FORD FOCUS Ghia, W reg. 2.0, 4-dr, 136k miles, clean, reliable, new body, good tyres, MoT May 2016, 2275. Stafford 07792 042730.

MERCEDES BENZ C180. Elegance SE. Leather interior, 83,000 miles. 9 months MoT, service history. Bargain £1,400. 01543 424719. 07790 884466.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2, 02, 3-dr, met green, MoT Aug, alloys wheels, good tyres, engine problem, hence £1500 ono. 07766 272429.

BMA www.bmacars.com
Est. Here 25 Years
2004 Vauxhall Corsa SXI 1.2 Silver, 1 owner £995
2002 Suzuki Alto GL 993cc, Black, 1 Owner £575
Cars and People Carriers from £500
07956 988517
Dale Street, Bilston, WV14 7JY

classic cars

FORD FIESTA MK3 1990, 4-dr, 1.1, 5-speed gearbox, blue metallic, clean and tidy car. MoT, suit enthusiast. £550. 07808 855076

commercial vehicles

FORD TRANSIT Custom Eco model 2013, 70,000 miles. White, All electric as new. Remainder of warranty, One company owner. £10,300 ono, no VAT. 07904 93774 / 0800 956263.

EXPERIENCED SADDLE MAKER wanted. Must be able to produce quality leather saddles. Call 01922 659080 email applications to mary@countysaddlery.com

motor trade

MECHANIC required, minimum 5 years experience. To work on cars and light commercials. MoT tester preferred. Tel Peter Ward on 01922 627850.

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

driving tuition



Homer's
Mini, Clio, Corsa, Fiesta, Punto,
207, KA, Fiat 500, Yaris.
10 Hours £80! Five Hours £50!
2 Hours £20! All Areas Covered
MALE & FEMALE INSTRUCTORS
MANUAL & AUTOMATIC
ADDITIONAL REQUIRED: Gift vouchers available for £10
07432 458100 / 01562 870050
01384 234954 / 0121 5640090
01902 580065
www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk

motorbikes

GENUINE HARLEY Davidson
motorbike jacket, super condition
and quality. 52 inch chest, £170.
01922 624644.

NFL MOTORCYCLE TRAINING
CBT to full licence. Call 8am - 9pm
for deals 01902 494422.

TRIUMPH SPEED Triple 955i, 2003,
mint condition, only 12,000 miles.
FSH, every MoT, current MoT till
Aug, £2,700. 01543 577608.

scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded
that it is an offence under the Scrap
Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy
scrap cars/metal for cash.

MCB

TOP PRICES PAID FOR
ALL SCRAP CARS,
VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS
Tel: 01902 408176
1000's of parts
available at all times
MONMORE RD, WV1 2TZ

vehicle hire

W.T.R. VAN HIRE Connects.
Transits, Lutons with Tail lifts,
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01902 457002 / 01384 79909.

vehicles wanted

CROWN MOTORS guarantee best
price for your unwanted cars/vans.
07905 549649, 01902 597035.

spares & accessories

mobile mechanics

MOBILE MECHANICS Service &
repairs. Headgasket, clutches and
cambelts. 07747 848469.

9 Local Information

public & legal notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

For convenience you
may fax any advertising
requirements to
Marie Hogg on
01902 713146
or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk
(remember to include a
name/contact number for
confirmation of receipt)

Walsall Council, Planning and Building Control

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) act 1990 Development Management Procedure Order 2015 (as amended)

The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council. Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online www.walsall.gov.uk/planning. Representations can be made online, email: planning@walsall.gov.uk or in writing to Head of Planning and Building Control, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG. Representations should be made within 21 days of the date of this notice. Please note Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

18/00023 Mr Atiqur Rahman FOR: CHANGE OF USE FROM RETAIL TO RESTAURANT AND HOT FOOD TAKEAWAY USE. AT: 253, BLAKENALL LANE, WALSALL, WALSALL, WS3 1HJ

15/1621 Mrs Sundee Kaur Khara FOR: AMENDMENT TO 13/0203/FL TO INCLUDE CHANGE OF USE OF LAND TO THE REAR FOR CAR PARK, TREE REMOVAL, NEW BOUNDARY WALLS AND ACCESS, EXTERNAL STEEL STAIR AT REAR, ADDITIONAL WINDOWS AND DOORS TO REAR ELEVATION; ADDITIONAL BRICKWORK TO PART REAR WALL, REMOVAL OF PARTIAL CHIMNEY BREASTS ON REAR ELEVATION; NEW PARTIAL PITCHED ROOF AT S AND E FASHION CLEARANCE, 2, WEST BROMWICH STREET, WALSALL, WALSALL, WS1 4BW

10 Personals

general

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WANTED GARAGE to let, any area considered.
07895 013770.

sports clubs



TIPTON YOUTH F.C. UNDER 10's
Looking to recruit experienced new players for next season. If you are interested in a trial please contact:
Lee for more details.
07878 273276

personal



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The largest adult superstore in the Midlands
• Adult Toys • Sexy Lingerie • Cosplay • Sex Toys
Unit 5 Frederick Street, Walsall WS2 9NE
01922 635544

A BRITISH INDIAN MALE

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If interested please post letter to:
Box Number P20219, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

ALONE? OVER 35? Friendship/Companionship.

01432 355144
www.janestephensbureau.co.uk

CHAMELEONS for like minded adults - singles / couples. 7 days a week, 9am - late. Mon Biseual day. 2 mins from JB / 110 MG. 0121 5686117. www.chameleons.co

THE GREENHOUSE SPA For Gay/Bisexual men. Jacuzzi & Restrooms on site. Open 7 days a week. 2 mins JB/110 MG. Call 0121 568 6126. www.gay-sauna.com



WIDOWER, CAR OWNER
Seeks nice lady 70+, retired, honest, slim/medium, to enjoy the rest of our lives together. Companionship and relationship, evenings in, meals out and holidays.
Penkridge / surrounding areas.
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Self Assessment and all accountancy services for the self employed, partnerships and limited companies.
A prompt and reliable service at a sensible cost
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YOUR LOCAL WALSALL BASED ACCOUNTANT
ALL ACCOUNTANCY WORK UNDERTAKEN INCLUDING:
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A LOCAL BUSINESS YOU CAN TRUST
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www.digitalrapidaerials.co.uk

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WMPT Services Ltd

Specialists in:

- BATHROOMS
- WETROOMS
- PLASTERING
- BATHROOM DESIGN
- TILING/PLASTERING
- DISABLED/MOBILITY BATHROOMS

All types of Home Improvements
FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTES

07869 134456
01922 646144

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PVC NOW AVAILABLE
• External doors supplied and fitted from £210
• Fit only, Paint or Stain available
• Fire doors fitted
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-Romans -Curtains
-Verticals -Awnings
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"New range of chainless verticals and night and day rollers."
Give us a try before you buy!
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Blinds4lessdirect.com

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• Floors • Tiling
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FREE QUOTES
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www.jayscarpentry.co.uk

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Brought to you by **Express & Star**

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GLAZING REPAIRS & LOCKSMITHS.
SERVICE & REPAIR FOR ALL DOORS & WINDOWS.
MISTY & BROKEN GLASS REPLACED.
WE REPAIR HANDLES, HINGES, SEALS, PATIO'S, WINDOW & DOOR LOCKS.
CONSERVATORY & GUTTERING LEAKS REPAIRED.
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07748 108035 years
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Driveways

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email: westcot.contractors.ltd@gmail.com

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Local Specialists
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APPROVED BY GUILD OF MASTERCRAFTSMEN
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FEATHEREDGE	£24	£21	£19	£16	£13	
OVERLAP	£15	£13	£12	£11	£10	
PICKET	£20	£18	£15	£13	£12	TIMBER POSTS
EXTRAS						8" x 4" x 4" - £10 8" x 3" x 3" - £7 6" x 3" x 3" - £5

FEATHEREDGE DOME TOPS OR FULL FRAME
£2 EXTRA, TANALISED 20% EXTRA

WE ALSO STOCK TRELLIS, CONCRETE POSTS AND GRAVEL BOARDS,
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TRADE AND QUANTITY ORDERS AT NEGOTIABLE DISCOUNTS
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★ IF QUALITY COUNTS - WE ARE ALWAYS NUMBER ONE ★
"TRUST THE PROFESSIONALS - ESTABLISHED OVER 15 YEARS"
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UNIT 7E, ZONE 4, BURNTWOOD BUSINESS PARK WS7 3XD
★ WE NOW UNDERTAKE LANDSCAPING, SLABBING, TURFING ETC ★

BLOXWICH FENCING LTD
6X5 LAP PANELS £15 (INCLUSIVE OF VAT)
Free Quotes
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WS3 2BQ

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P J BROADHURST FENCING
Top Quality Fencing Supplied & Fitted
All types of fence panels • Gravel boards
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You will be blown away by our prices!
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D & D DOMESTICS
Your Local Repair Engineers
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Factory trained Engineers
Call anytime on:
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07958 746758

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A locally based, family run company established in 2007.
Since the owner is a fully qualified Tree Surgeon with
21 years experience in all aspects of professional tree surgery.
Fully insured, professional, competitive and friendly.
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Tree Felling
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All Debris Removed
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MALE, 46, slim, WLTW a lady to settle me down, if that's you please get in touch. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420853

62yr old professional male seeks female 55-70, curvy and feminine, for fun, laughter and relationship. Text only to mailbox: 4435871

TREVOR 45, likes cinema, going out, some quiet nights in and looking for someone with similar interests. Text only to mailbox: 5392042

COLIN 48, loving, kind, seeks loving kind caring cuddly lady 48 to 54 for LTR, love and romance. Text only to mailbox: 5308886

MALE 51, seeks lady to spoil and pamper. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 313191

MARK, 44, very interesting person, own business, sporty, honest and genuine, likes nights out, meals out, cinema, country walks. WLTW a lady for friendship and good company leading to a permanent relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420841

MALE 55, stocky, seeks lady for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407741

MALE 57, seeking female, any age/looks for no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416779

TOBY, looking for a responsible lady, 30-50, sensible with money, loving, passionate, romantic, single mum of one lovely son. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420813

MALE 45yrs old, self-employed motor trader/mechanic, medium build, green eyes, average looks. I am a nice genuine and honest person looking for similar lady to share life with. I have a permanent relationship and happy times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418709

MALE, 59, 5ft2, average build, seeks genuine, caring, lady, 55-65. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420721

JOSEPH attractive Asian male, seeking attractive, genuine female, 38-50 for friendship and companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410267

HANDSOME, attractive, fit, Indian, professional trucker, 38, WLTW attractive, honest, caring lady/mum, 31-45 for LTR. Colour unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 219790

ATTRACTIVE male 56 seeks dom female 40 to 70 for close adult fun, any status or size. Text only to mailbox: 4347071

MATURE male, 6ft, slim, fit, clean and smart, residing in central Birmingham, seeks slimsish female for fun times. Text only to mailbox: 5383053

MAN 55yrs, 6ft med build, single, looking for a special lady to share no strings fun and good times Age/status unimportant. Text only to mailbox: 5381487

KALU 26 years old single dark/black good looking man looking for a good-looking woman for sexy fun. Text only to mailbox: 5383533

ATTRACTIVE British Indian male, 38, seeks slim, attractive, caring female for friendship, hopefully LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 227154

ASIAN male, 38, good looking, fit, loving, caring, GSOH, WLTW Asian female, 40-55 for friendship, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 235383

SEXY Indian male, 40, dark hair/eyes, fit, seeks fit, sporty, sexy, romantic female, 30-45 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 301791

HANDSOME Indian male, 41, tactile, romantic, likes meals out, days out, walks, nights in, seeks sensitive, intelligent Indian female, 36-46 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 322561

FIT, handsome, Indian male, 40, GSOH, seeks Asian lady, 33-43 for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 365160

ATTRACTIVE professional, Asian male, 43, kind, caring, likes travel, romance, dining, seeks attractive lady, 35-50 for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 370823

MARK 40, 5ft 9ins, brown hair/eyes, attractive, good looking, OHAC/business, likes walks, day trips, cinema, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 348239

SLIM attractive man WLTW caring lady, 40-58, for friendship, reply and claim free hug. Text only mailbox no: 4172082

BLACK male early 40's, slim, looking for casual/short weekend fun with broad-minded, easy going discreet female. Text only mailbox no: 4656899

CHRIS, male, 47, single, 5ft 8ins, blue eyes, brown hair, seeks female between 25 and 45 for fun and maybe more. Please get in touch. Text only mailbox no: 5352046

COLIN 48, kind, caring, loving, seeks kind, caring, loving, cuddly large lady, 40 to 50 for LTR. Text only mailbox no: 5308886

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Bar join Q for the title after rout over Old Hall

Q BAR are still hoping to secure a top three place in the Aldridge Snooker League Premier Division. They currently sit fourth after thrashing doomed Old Hall 5-0 – who look set to be heading for division one. Among the winners was 13-year-old debutant Joe Woodhouse who has a promising future ahead of him.

Leaders St Johns extended their lead at the top when they demolished relegation threatened Victoria A 5-0. Reigning champions Wednesfield Cons A are not giving up on their title easily and beat mid-table Bloxwich Memorial A 4-1. Cannock Cons B are also remaining in title contention when they swept aside Pelsall Social A 4-1 away from home.

In Division One, the title race saw some twists and turns as leaders Bentley Moor A suffered a surprise 3-2 home defeat to Athenaeum Club.

Second placed Bloxwich Memorial B could not take advantage of the leaders' slip-up as they lost to third-placed Stafford Road B 3-2.

Darlaston Cons suffered a dent to their promotion challenge when they suffered a 3-2 reverse at home to Landywood B.

Wednesfield Cons B gave their faint promotion hopes a boost when they beat struggling Lichfield Road 5-0 away from home.

Results Premier Division: Aldridge Cons B 0 Lea Hall Club 5; Landywood SC A 5 Ogley Hay 0; Pelsall Social A 1 Cannock Cons B 4; Q Bar A 5 Old Hall 0; St Johns SC 5 Victoria A 0; Stafford Road A 3 Aldridge Cons A 2; Wednesfield Cons A 4 Bloxwich Memorial A 1; Lea Hall Club 1 St Johns SC 4.

Division 1: Aldridge Cons C 3 Norton Vic 2; Armerly Q Bar B 1; Bloxwich Memorial B 2 Stafford Road B 3; Darlaston Cons 2 Landywood SC B 3; Golden Cue C 2 Bentley Moor B 3; Lichfield Road BC 0 Wednesfield Cons B 5; Victoria B 1 Essington WMC 4; Bentley Moor A 2 Athenaeum Club 3.

Hat-trick of victories is a Webb feat

BLAKE Webb claimed a hat-trick of wins for Broadway Swimming Club at the first Wombourne Junior League Gala of the year.

Webb took victory in the 10-year-old boys 50 metres freestyle before also winning the nine-year-old 25m butterfly and freestyle races.

Elodie Rollins opened with a personal best time in the 10-year-old girls 50m freestyle, while Robyn Dolan seized a win in the nine-year-old girls 25m breaststroke.

Broadway members also recorded a number of second places, including Adam Guild in the nine-year-old breaststroke, Jenson Proctor in the 11-year boys backstroke, George Pattinson in the 11-year boys breaststroke, Matthias Henry in the 12-year-old boys butterfly and freestyle, Alex Fisher in the 11-year girls freestyle and Chloe Mallon in the nine-years butterfly.

Millie Harmon, Isabel Clarke, Emily Matthews, Courtney Bleakley, Amber Catley and Natalia Tura all recorded personal bests.

Rushall see off a young Potters side

Rushall Olympic 2 Stoke City 0 RUSHALL maintained their unbeaten start to 2016 – and advanced to the semi-finals of the Staffordshire Senior Cup with a 2-0 win over a young Stoke City XI.

The deadlock was broken for Richard Sneekes' side after great work down the left from Alex Reid saw him turn inside Lewis Banks and square to Zak Martin who swept the ball home on 10 yards.

It got better on the hour mark as the Pics kept possession down the left before Jordan Fitzpatrick crossed in and Spencer volleyed in left-footed from 15 yards – a goal the striker deserved on the night.

Pics were looking for another Premier scalp on Tuesday night when they entertained Albion in the Birmingham Senior Cup.

Gordon plays weighting game



West Bromwich fighter Matt Gordon

WEST Bromwich's Matt Gordon is dealing with an unfamiliar weight problem for professional boxers coming up to fight night – he's struggling to put enough of it on!

Gordon, aged 31, undertakes his third outing in the heavyweight division at Walsall Town Hall next Friday. But having gone past his desired target, Gordon now plans to pile on the weight by piling high his plate before gobbling up a hat-trick of paid victories.

Extensive work with his fitness

coach Mark Richards and former pro footballer Justin Richards, now playing at part-timers Stourbridge, have paid off more than ever.

Former Mixed Martial Arts fighter Lukas Horak will have to unmatch his hunger.

Gordon said: "I like to be around 16-and-a-half stone to fight, but I've been coming in just above 16st in my fights so far. I've been losing weight because I've upped the training, so I've had to up the calories, too." Top of the bill will

see Halesowen's Lennox Clarke, 24, get back into title contention against Richard Horton.

The 'Undefeated' bill, promoted by Errol Johnson's Black Country Boxing and Hatton, has eight unbeaten fighters on the card.

Hatton will lead Wednesbury's Sam Evans, Pauly Upton, Reuben Arrowsmith and Nathan Gorman into battle. Gordon's Sandwell cohort Manny Zaber, from Old Hill, tackles Liam Richards. Stoke's Kieron McLaren completes the card.

Tully eyes Rio after Thai training camp

PARA-SWIMMER Tully Kearney is focusing all her efforts on qualifying for Rio after returning from a month-long training camp.

The Aldridge swimmer, who won four golds and six medals in total at the World Championships last year, will join her former schoolmate Ellie Simmonds for the crucial Paralympic qualifiers in April.

Both swimmers spent four weeks in Thailand as part of British Swimming's preparations for this summer's Paralympics in Brazil.

Eighteen-year-old Kearney, who is also juggling her physiotherapy degree at Manchester Metropolitan University, said she only had one goal in her mind.

"My first aim is to qualify for Rio but if I do my only goal is to do the best I can," she said.

"If I can swim a few personal bests, I will be happy with that.

"There is pressure on everyone but I just try to forget about it and focus on what I can do.

"This would be my first Paralympics and obviously it will be a bigger competition but at the same time it will be the same as all the others really."

Experience

The Thailand camp was organised to keep the British team focused and also to prevent swimmers catching common colds and coughs associated with British winter.

Kearney, who suffers with primary generalised dystonia – a condition which affects her limbs, said the camp had been a great experience that had brought the whole team closer together.

She said: "Thailand went really well and it was a really good camp.

"We all worked hard and the experience itself was brilliant. There was a lot of team bonding.

"It was great to be able to get away from everything and it also helped bring everyone together as a team.

"We were staying in a fantastic facility and we were able to just completely focus on our swimming."

Qualifiers for the British Paralympic team will take place in Glasgow's Tollcross International Swimming Centre from April 23 to 27.

The Paralympic Games will take place in Rio from September 7 to 18, with swimming the second biggest sport in the programme.

Swimming races will be held in the Olympic Aquatics Centre in the Barra district with 620 athletes competing for 152 medals.



Former Aldridge classmates Tully Kearney and Ellie Simmonds are focusing on qualifying for Rio

Belt up – four titles on line in Sam bout

FOUR belts could be on the line when Stourbridge's Sam Eggington takes top billing against Bradley Skeete at Birmingham's Genting Arena.

The Eggington/Skeete clash is the headline act on Saturday March 5.

'The Savage' defends his British and Commonwealth welterweight titles against his mandatory challenger, on a Matchroom Boxing show live on Sky Sports.

And Eggington's WBC International Silver belt, along with Skeete's WBO European crown, could also be put up for grabs.

The contest will cross the promoters' divide, as Londoner Skeete, managed by Frank Warren, competes on a Matchroom show after Eddie Hearn won the purse bids.

It will now also be put to the British Boxing Board of Control that the WBC and WBO straps be involved in the bout, which was actually called for by Warren's representative Andy Ayling.

Eggington is aware the prospect of a Lonsdale belt fight against Frankie Gavin later in the year is also being risked.

The 21-year-old said: "Bradley's not daft, he's a hard opponent, but I can't see him lasting the

Boxing

distance with me. He'll have to work hard for everything he gets.

"If I do what I need to, I will come out with the win and that will be my mandatory out of the way. After that, I want to go and win the belt outright."

Skeete's only pro defeat came against Gavin in November 2014, when both were under the Warren banner. He said: "These are the fights I want to be in, at these big arenas headlining. I've come up short before, but I won't this time."

Essington's Ben Wilkes will undertake his step up elsewhere on the card and is the underdog against the all-action Cello Renda, in an eliminator for the English middleweight title.

Wilkes has nine wins from 10 from what has been a stop-start career since turning pro in 2009, and he's adamant he's got the skills to upset the form book. He said: "It's a big opportunity for me and he's going to get a shock. On paper, no one has given me a chance in hell but, if I perform as I can do, I'm confident I can spring a shock."

The 29-year-old shed over five-and-half stone to

make his debut all that time ago, but spent nearly five years out of the ring after a third round TKO defeat to Janis Cernauskis.

Renda, 30, said: "I'm ready for anything that Ben brings to the table."

Another major domestic title fight and two clashes for Midlands belts also appear, with both Yafai brothers in action.

British champion Kal is closing in on the world stage and will tackle Moises Flores in an official 12-round eliminator for Kohei Kono's WBA super flyweight title.

Younger sibling Gamal goes after his first domestic crown, challenging for Bobby Jenkinson's newly-won Commonwealth super bantamweight strap.

More Brummies step through the ropes for area honours and a Battle of Birmingham will come at lightweight, as Michael Rooney and Marcus Ffrench meet for the vacant strap.

New Midlands titlist Karl Wiggins defends at welter for the first time against Derby's Ryan Fields. Tickets are on general sale priced at £40, £60 and £100 from www.theticketfactory.com. VIP upgrades, costing £150, can be bought exclusively at www.matchroomboxing.com

O'Driscoll Don well on return to old club

Doncaster Rovers 1 Walsall 2 SEAN O'Driscoll enjoyed a winning return to former club Doncaster as Walsall's 2-1 victory at Keepmoat Stadium moved them back into the automatic promotion spots.

Second-half goals from Sam Mantom and Andy Taylor secured the crucial win.

A goal from substitute Liam Mandeville gave Doncaster late hope, but O'Driscoll's side held on in a nervy last 10 minutes to clinch the points.

The match marked O'Driscoll's first competitive return to the Keepmoat where he enjoyed huge success as Doncaster manager between 2006 and 2011.

As well as securing the Johnstone's Paint Trophy, the boss also guided the South Yorkshire outfit into the Championship before stabilising them in the division.

Donny were quickest out of the blocks and had the home fans appealing for a penalty inside the opening minutes when top scorer Andy Williams knocked the ball against the arm of Paul Downing.

But despite strong protests from the striker, referee Barry Toner waved play on. The penalty appeal aside, chances were proving few and far between.

But Walsall came out a different side after the interval and were rewarded on the hour mark when they took the lead through Mantom's fifth goal of the season. Five minutes later the score was 2-0 as Taylor kept his composure to fire home from eight yards.

But they were hanging on for 10 minutes at the end after a goal 10 minutes from time from substitute Liam Mandeville.

Still chance to net tickets for Davis Cup tie

BIRMINGHAM'S Barclaycard Arena is finalising last minute plans for the so-called World Cup of Tennis, the Davis Cup.

The champion GB team will be returning to start the defence of the title against Japan in the World Group first round, from March 4-6. This will be the first meeting between Great Britain and Japan since 1931.

Phil Mead, managing director of the Barclaycard Arena said: "With an action-packed three days ahead, it is with great pleasure we welcome Leon Smith and his side to the Barclaycard Arena.

"The venue will once again be the focus of an international sporting event, so our events and sales teams are working closely alongside The International Tennis Federation to deliver an exceptional opening round."

Great Britain has lifted the Davis Cup trophy on 10 occasions.

Tickets can still be bought at www.theticketfactory.com or by calling 0844 33 88 222.

Away defeat made worse by injury blow

Market Drayton 4 Bloxwich 3 BLOXWICH Men's hockey team suffered a disappointing defeat against a strong and physical Market Drayton side on a wet Saturday afternoon.

On Market Drayton's makeshift home pitch in Whitchurch, Bloxwich took the lead quite early on with Matt Baldwin scoring but could not stop Market Drayton from responding to go into the lead

Goals from Jake Perkins and Steve Mallows put Bloxwich into a 3-2 lead into the final few minutes. But with a few lapses in concentration from the defence, Drayton found an opening and scored two in the dying minutes to grab a win.

X-rays on a nasty Phil Ashcroft injury revealed an horrific collarbone break. A speedy recovery is wished.



Bowerman to have trial at MLS side

FORMER Saddlers striker George Bowerman could be lining up alongside Brazilian ace Kaka after being offered a trial in the MLS with Orlando City.

The Sedgley-born 24-year-old had joined AFC Telford on loan from Altrincham less than a fortnight ago and made one substitute appearance against Hedsford Town. But he has already moved on after receiving an offer from the Florida-based club, who currently have World Cup winner Kaka on their books. "To be fair to George, this was an opportunity he could not turn down," said Bucks assistant boss Larry Chambers. "We spoke to him, to his agent and both parties agreed for him to go. This is something which could completely transform his lifestyle."

Bowerman came through the youth academy at Walsall and made his debut for the club in a League Cup clash against Middlesbrough in August 2011.

The forward scored 11 times for the Saddlers in 59 appearances, although just 15 of them were starts.

He was released from the Banks's Stadium in May, 2013.

Spells at Woking and Accrington Stanley followed and he had a loan spell with Stourbridge in the Evo-Stik Premier last season.

A move to Vanarama Premier side Altrincham followed in July last year and he started well with four goals before the end of August.

But he netted just once after that and was allowed to drop down a division with the Bucks.

Kaka, on the other hand, played 91 times for Brazil and has won the Champions League. Orlando, who are managed by former Everton striker Adrian Heath, are entering their second campaign in the MLS and finished seventh in the Eastern Conference.

Saddlers will get back on track at Crewe – Mantom

MIDFIELDER Sam Mantom believes Walsall will return to winning ways when they take on relegation threatened Crewe this weekend.

The Saddlers travel with the best away record in the division having won nine of their 14 games outside WS1.

And Mantom revealed the players immediately switched their focus to that game following the loss against Neil Harris' side. "We were looking forward to Crewe the moment the Millwall game finished," Mantom said.

"We have got some really big games coming up and we are not going to let our confidence be dented by Millwall. Our form away from home has been excellent and we're confident we will go there and win the game."

Despite losing against Millwall, one of the big positives to come out the game was the performance of 21-year-old goalkeeper Liam Roberts.

Roberts has to cope with heavy winds as well as a volatile away support with Mantom impressed with the way he handled the occasion.

Host side Walsall down – and dirty



Centre Richard Clarke makes a strong run

Walsall 7 Bridgnorth 41

WALSALL, at the third attempt, managed to play against Bridgnorth. It was, however, a day that had seen the Delves Road pitch turned into a sea of mud by the players and the persistent rain.

The league leaders started well and winger Brookes won the chase for the first touchdown. The hosts tried to clear their lines, but the gale force wind blew their kicks back towards them.

The lineup proved to be a problem for Walsall throughout the afternoon, but this proved to be a strength of their opponents. It was a drive from a lineup that saw No8 Ramsey score Bridgnorth's

Rugby

next try which Fletcher converted. Two more tries, from Cooper and Farrington, just before the interval gave the visitors a comfortable lead.

Another lineup drive saw the visitors open their account early in the second half. But the hosts secured a deserved score, Weston converting Weaver's effort.

The visitors completed their scoring with two more tries and a third Fletcher conversion.

The United lost 17-0 in their league cup match against a strong Hereford team.

LIONS' GAME PLAN EXECUTED

Walsall 0 Millwall 3

SOME bad fortune together with opponents who executed a game plan to perfection cost Saddlers dear – but no-one said winning promotion to the Championship was going to be easy.

This was one of those occasions where, even before a ball had been kicked, you just sensed it wasn't going to be Walsall's day.

On a cold, wet and windy afternoon, Saddlers fans who braved the elements arrived at the Banks's to discover rookie goalkeeper Liam Roberts was making his debut.

With number one Neil Etheridge ruled out with a gashed knee, deputy Craig MacGillivray injured his shoulder in training on Friday, meaning the 21-year-old stopper was thrust into the limelight.

But the performance of the talented youngster proved to be one of few positives on what turned into a disappointing day.

Walsall's bad luck started when they lost the coin toss and were forced to shoot towards their own supporters for the first half.

Tempo

It meant Millwall had the advantage of the strong winds after the interval – a decision that proved to be vital.

For the opening 45 minutes, the Saddlers were in control with the exception of a brief spell in which Roberts made three excellent saves. They played at a high tempo, won the second ball high up the pitch and made it difficult for Millwall to get out of their half.

The Saddlers were guilty of not creating enough clear chances yet Anthony Forde saw a strike cannon off the bar and Rico Henry saw a cross-come-shot hit the post.

Nobody would have complained if, after the hour, Walsall were three goals ahead.

The conditions though ensured Sean O'Driscoll's men couldn't move the ball with the same urgency after the re-start. And with the weather against them, they were undone by some real



Rico Henry is bought down by Mahlon Romeo, who was on the scoresheet for Millwall

quality. For Millwall's first, Wolves loanee Jed Wallace sent in the kind of a cross strikers dream about, with Lee Gregory making no mistake from close range.

Mahlon Romeo then ensured he had a debut to remember by unleashing a thunderous strike into the bottom corner.

Those goals came after the Saddlers had seen star striker Tom Bradshaw forced to make way with an ankle injury before Gregory then made it 3-0.

But while Walsall had dominated possession, this was no snatch and grab. Millwall set up to withstand heavy pressure and they dug deep and

worked hard to ensure when they needed some luck, it came their way. Boss Neil Harris revealed he had been looking forward to this game since the Saddlers won at The Den on Boxing Day – with his long-standing plan coming to fruition.

For Walsall, fans were left frustrated at their team's lack of guile in the final third, as O'Driscoll again opted to field Henry as a left-winger with Milan Lalkovic kept on the bench.

The boss has set his team the challenge of taking 10 points from each batch of five games. Victory at Crewe on Saturday will ensure that target is achieved and that the dream of promotion is still well on track.

Home form no concern insists boss

BOSS Sean O'Driscoll insists he has no concerns over Walsall's home form despite his side falling to a 3-0 defeat against Millwall.

The Saddlers dominated the opening hour of Saturday's League One clash but paid the price for not taking their chances when Lee Gregory netted a brace and Mahlon Romeo scored a debut goal.

The result means O'Driscoll's side have taken just one point from their last three games at the Banks's Stadium after drawing with Blackpool and losing to Rochdale.

In total, Walsall have lost five league games this season, with four of those coming at home. But O'Driscoll believes it's nothing to be worried about.

"It's only an issue if the media make it an issue – it is one of those things that gets built up into something," the head coach said.

"Rochdale, credit it to them, did a job on us. We should have beaten Blackpool – it was just a last minute free-kick that cost us.

"Millwall, if we had walked in 3-0 up at half-time nobody would have complained.

"We have to put things into perspective. Every five games we are trying to get 10 points. We have got seven out of 12. The previous five games we got 10 points. We are still right on track."

O'Driscoll is hopeful Tom Bradshaw will be fit to face Crewe after the striker came off against Millwall with an ankle knock.

"Before half-time he hurt his ankle," the boss added.

"He wanted to go out and play but he wasn't moving well. Common sense prevailed and he came off.

"We have a free week now so hopefully he will be okay for Crewe."

Youngster Tighes up badminton title

A WALSALL boy has become a national badminton champion. Tighe Crook won the under-11 boys singles at Worcester University.

Run by Badminton England, 36 of the best juniors in the country took part. Crook is ranked fifth in the country and was seeded fourth. He beat the champion from Oxfordshire in the quarter final and the top seed from Warwickshire in the semi before then beating the number two seed, from Yorkshire.

A pupil at Cooper and Jordan Junior school, in Aldridge, Crook will represent Walsall at the English Schools Badminton Championships in April.

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